

A. Lincoln

Monograph Copy

The Life and Works of



Abraham
Lincoln

Edited by

Nicolay and Hay

Vol. VIII. Part II.

Extra illustrated with Letters,
State Documents and rare Engravings

by

The Anglo-American Authors Assn.
New York.

FINAL EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION,
January 1, 1863¹

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA:

A Proclamation.

WHEREAS, on the twenty-second day of September, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-two, a proclamation was issued by the President of the United States, containing, among other things, the following, to wit:

“That on the first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, all persons held as slaves within any State, or designated part of a State, the people whereof shall then be in rebellion against the

¹ While preparing this momentous document Lincoln as usual sought the advice of his Cabinet. Many suggestions were offered but few of them were accepted. On New Year's Day, 1863, the Emancipation Proclamation was signed in the presence of less than a dozen witnesses. It dealt the death blow to slavery in the United States. Many of Lincoln's letters betray reluctance to frame such a measure. He felt it was unjust toward slave-holders, but circumstance and necessity demanded this action. Lincoln met the need nobly and became the author of one of the greatest and most beneficent military decrees recorded in history.

United States, shall be then, thenceforward, and forever free; and the Executive Government of the United States, including the military and naval authority thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of such persons, and will do no act or acts to repress such persons, or any of them, in any efforts they may make for their actual freedom.

“That the Executive will, on the first day of January aforesaid, by proclamation, designate the States and parts of States, if any, in which the people thereof respectively shall then be in rebellion against the United States; and the fact that any State, or the people thereof, shall on that day be in good faith represented in the Congress of the United States by members chosen thereto at elections wherein a majority of the qualified voters of such State shall have participated, shall in the absence of strong countervailing testimony be deemed conclusive evidence that such State and the people thereof are not then in rebellion against the United States.”

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, by virtue of the power in me vested as commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States, in time of actual armed rebellion against the authority and government of the United States, and as a fit and necessary war measure for suppressing said re-

bellion, do, on this first day of January, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and in accordance with my purpose so to do, publicly proclaimed for the full period of 100 days from the day first above mentioned, order and designate as the States and parts of States wherein the people thereof, respectively, are this day in rebellion against the United States, the following, to wit:

Arkansas, Texas, Louisiana (except the parishes of St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Jefferson, St. John, St. Charles, St. James, Ascension, Assumption, Terre Bonne, Lafourche, St. Mary, St. Martin, and Orleans, including the city of New Orleans), Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, and Virginia (except the forty-eight counties designated as West Virginia, and also the counties of Berkeley, Accomac, Northampton, Elizabeth City, York, Princess Anne, and Norfolk, including the cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth), and which excepted parts are for the present left precisely as if this proclamation were not issued.

And by virtue of the power and for the purpose aforesaid, I do order and declare that all persons held as slaves within said designated States and parts of States are, and henceforward shall be, free; and that the Executive Government of the United States, including the military

and naval authorities thereof, will recognize and maintain the freedom of said persons.

And I hereby enjoin upon the people so declared to be free to abstain from all violence, unless in necessary self-defense; and I recommend to them that, in all cases where allowed, they labor faithfully for reasonable wages.

And I further declare and make known that such persons of suitable condition will be received into the armed service of the United States to garrison forts, positions, stations, and other places, and to man vessels of all sorts in said service.

And upon this act, sincerely believed to be an act of justice, warranted by the Constitution upon military necessity, I invoke the considerate judgment of mankind and the gracious favor of Almighty God.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this
first day of January, in the year of our
Lord one thousand eight hundred and
[L. S.] sixty-three, and of the independence of
the United States of America the eighty-
seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

LETTER TO GENERAL H. W. HALLECK

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 1, 1863.

My dear Sir: General Burnside wishes to cross the Rappahannock with his army, but his grand division commanders all oppose the movement. If in such a difficulty as this you do not help, you fail me precisely in the point for which I sought your assistance. You know what General Burnside's plan is, and it is my wish that you go with him to the ground, examine it as far as practicable, confer with the officers, getting their judgment and ascertaining their temper—in a word, gather all the elements for forming a judgment of your own, and then tell General Burnside that you do approve or that you do not approve his plan. Your military skill is useless to me if you do not do this.

Yours very truly, A. LINCOLN.

[*Indorsement.*]

Withdrawn, because considered harsh by General Halleck. A. LINCOLN.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

WASHINGTON, January 1, 1863.

HON. E. M. STANTON, Secretary of War,
Washington, D. C.

Sir: From my recent interview with the President and yourself, and from the President's letter of this morning, which you delivered to me at your recep-

tion, I am led to believe that there is a very important difference of opinion in regard to my relations toward generals commanding armies in the field, and that I cannot perform the duties of my present office satisfactorily at the same time to the President and to myself. I therefore respectfully request that I may be relieved from further duties as general-in-chief.¹

Very respectfully your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK.

LETTER TO SECRETARY STANTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 1, 1863.

Dear Sir: Yesterday a piteous appeal was made to me by an old lady of genteel appearance, saying she had, with what she thought sufficient assurance that she would not be disturbed by the government, fitted up the two south divisions of the old "Duff Green" building, in order to take boarders, and has boarders already in it, and others, including members of Congress, engaged; and that now she is ordered to be out of it by Saturday, the 3d instant; and that independently of the ruin it brings on her by her lost outlay, she neither has nor can find another shelter for her own head. I know nothing

¹ As duplicates are found among General Halleck's papers, and no copy is found in the War Department files, it is presumed that the application was withdrawn upon withdrawal of the President's letter.—N. and H.

about it myself, but promised to bring it to your notice.

Yours, truly,

A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, January 2, 1863

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I submit to Congress the expediency of extending to other departments of the government the authority conferred on the President by the eighth section of the act of the 8th of May, 1792, to appoint a person to temporarily discharge the duties of Secretary of State, Secretary of the Treasury, and Secretary of War, in case of the death, absence from the seat of government, or sickness of either of those officers.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL B. F. BUTLER

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 2, 1863.

Major-General Butler: The Secretary of War and myself have concluded to discharge, of the prisoners at Point Lookout, the following classes:

First. Those who will take the oath prescribed in the proclamation of December 8, and by the consent of General Marston will enlist in our service.

Second. Those who will take the oath and be

discharged, and whose homes lie safely within our military lines.

I send by Mr. Hay this letter, and a blank-book and some other blanks, the way of using which I propose for him to explain verbally better than I can in writing.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL S. R. CURTIS

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 2, 1863.

My dear Sir: Yours of December 29 by the hand of Mr. Strong is just received. The day I telegraphed you suspending the order in relation to Dr. McPheeters, he, with Mr. Bates, the Attorney-General, appeared before me and left with me a copy of the order mentioned. The doctor also showed me the copy of an oath which he said he had taken, which is, indeed, very strong and specific. He also verbally assured me that he had constantly prayed in church for the President and government, as he had always done before the present war. In looking over the recitals in your order, I do not see that this matter of prayer, as he states it, is negatived, nor that any violation of his oath is charged, nor, in fact, that anything specific is alleged against him. The charges are all general: that he has a rebel wife and rebel rela-

tions, that he sympathizes with rebels, and that he exercises rebel influence. Now, after talking with him, I tell you frankly I believe he does sympathize with the rebels, but the question remains whether such a man, of unquestioned good moral character, who has taken such an oath as he has, and cannot even be charged with violating it, and who can be charged with no other specific act or omission, can, with safety to the government, be exiled upon the suspicion of his secret sympathies. But I agree that this must be left to you, who are on the spot; and if, after all, you think the public good requires his removal, my suspension of the order is withdrawn, only with this qualification, that the time during the suspension is not to be counted against him. I have promised him this. But I must add that the United States Government must not, as by this order, undertake to run the churches. When an individual in a church or out of it becomes dangerous to the public interest, he must be checked; but let the churches, as such, take care of themselves. It will not do for the United States to appoint trustees, supervisors, or other agents for the churches.

Yours very truly,
A. LINCOLN.

P. S. The committee composed of Messrs. Yeatman and Filley (Mr. Broadhead not attending) has presented your letter and the memorial of sundry citizens. On the whole subject embraced exercise your best judgment, with a sole view to the public interest, and I will not interfere without hearing you.

January 3, 1863.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY WELLES

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 4, 1863.

Dear Sir: As many persons who come well recommended for loyalty and service to the Union cause, and who are refugees from rebel oppression in the State of Virginia, make application to me for authority and permission to remove their families and property to protection within the Union lines, by means of our armed gunboats on the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay, you are hereby requested to hear and consider all such applications, and to grant such assistance to this class of persons as in your judgment their merits may render proper, and as may in each case be consistent with the perfect and complete efficiency of the naval service and with military expediency.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL S. R. CURTIS

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 5, 1863.

My dear Sir: I am having a good deal of trouble with Missouri matters, and I now sit down to write you particularly about it. One class of friends believe in greater severity and another in greater leniency in regard to arrests, banishments, and assessments. As usual in such cases, each questions the other's motives. On the one hand, it is insisted that Governor Gamble's unionism, at most, is not better than a secondary spring of action; that hunkerism and a wish for political influence stand before unionism with him. On the other hand, it is urged that arrests, banishments, and assessments are made more for private malice, revenge, and pecuniary interest than for the public good. This morning I was told by a gentleman who I have no doubt believes what he says, that in one case of assessments for \$10,000, the different persons who paid compared receipts, and found they had paid \$30,000. If this be true, the inference is that the collecting agents pocketed the odd \$20,000. And true or not in the instance, nothing but the sternest necessity can justify the making and maintaining of a system so liable to such abuses. Doubtless the necessity for the

making of the system in Missouri did exist, and whether it continues for the maintenance of it is now a practical and very important question. Some days ago Governor Gamble telegraphed me, asking that the assessments outside of St. Louis County might be suspended, as they already have been within it, and this morning all the members of Congress here from Missouri but one laid a paper before me asking the same thing. Now, my belief is that Governor Gamble is an honest and true man, not less so than yourself; that you and he could confer together on this and other Missouri questions with great advantage to the public; that each knows something which the other does not; and that acting together you could about double your stock of pertinent information. May I not hope that you and he will attempt this? I could at once safely do (or you could safely do without me) whatever you and he agree upon. There is absolutely no reason why you should not agree.

Yours as ever, A. LINCOLN

P. S. I forgot to say that Hon. James S. Rollins, member of Congress from one of the Missouri districts, wishes that, upon his personal responsibility, Rev. John M. Robinson, of Columbia, Missouri; James L. Matthews, of Boone County, Missouri; and James L. Stephens, also of Boone County, Missouri, may be allowed to

return to their respective homes. Major Rollins leaves me with very strong papers from the neighbors of these men, whom he says he knows to be true men. He also says he has many constituents who he thinks are rightly exiled, but that he thinks these three should be allowed to return. Please look into the case, and oblige Major Rollins if you consistently can.

Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 5, 1863

To the House of Representatives: In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives of the 22d ultimo, in relation to the alleged interference of our minister to Mexico in favor of the French, I transmit a report from the Secretary of State, and the papers with which it was accompanied.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL ROSECRANS

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 5, 1863.

Major-General W. S. Rosecrans, Murfreesborough, Tennessee: Your despatch announcing retreat of enemy has just reached here. God bless you and all with you! Please tender to all, and accept for yourself, the nation's gratitude

for your and their skill, endurance, and dauntless courage.

A. LINCOLN

*LETTERS TO CALEB RUSSELL AND SALLIE A.
FENTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 5, 1863.

My good Friends: The Honorable Senator Harlan has just placed in my hands your letter of the 27th of December, which I have read with pleasure and gratitude. It is most cheering and encouraging for me to know that in the efforts which I have made and am making for the restoration of a righteous peace to our country, I am upheld and sustained by the good wishes and prayers of God's people. No one is more deeply than myself aware that without His favor our highest wisdom is but as foolishness and that our most strenuous efforts would avail nothing in the shadow of His displeasure. I am conscious of no desire for my country's welfare that is not in consonance with His will, and of no plan upon which we may not ask His blessing. It seems to me that if there be one subject upon which all good men may unitedly agree, it is imploring the gracious favor of the God of Nations upon the struggles our people are making for the preservation of their precious birthright of civil and religious liberty.

Very truly your friend,

A. LINCOLN.

MEMORANDUM

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 6, 1863.

Colonel Ullman calls with Captain Alban B. Botsford, now of the Seventy-eighth New York Infantry, both at National Hotel. Has property in Mississippi, and is well acquainted in Louisiana. When time comes would like to aid in organizing blacks there.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL DIX

WAR DEPARTMENT, January 7, 1863.

Major-General Dix, Fort Monroe, Va.:

Do Richmond papers of 6th say nothing about Vicksburg or if anything, what?

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GREEN ADAMS

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 7, 1863.

My dear Sir: In answer to your inquiries of this morning, I have to say I am very anxious to have the special force in Kentucky raised and armed. But the changed conduct toward me of some of her members of Congress and the ominous outgivings as to what the governor and legislature of Kentucky intend doing, admonish me to consider whether any additional arms I may send there are not to be turned against the gov-

ernment. I hope this may clear up on the right side. So far as I can see, Kentucky's sons in the field are acting loyally and bravely. God bless them! I cannot help thinking the mass of her people feel the same way. Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

NOTE TO GENERAL H. W. HALLECK

EXECUTIVE MANSION

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 7, 1863.

My dear Sir: What think you of forming a reserve cavalry corps of, say, 6000 for the Army of the Potomac? Might not such a corps be constituted from the cavalry of Sigel's and Slocum's corps, with scraps we could pick up here and there?

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO B. G. BROWN

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, D. C.,

January 7, 1863. 5:30 P. M.

Hon. B. Gratz Brown, Jefferson City, Missouri: Yours of to-day just received. The administration takes no part between its friends in Missouri, of whom I, at least, consider you one; and I have never before had an intimation that appointees there were interfering, or were inclined to interfere.

A. LINCOLN.

CORRESPONDENCE WITH GENERAL BURNSIDE
January 8, 1863

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
January 5, 1863.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED
STATES:

Since my return to the army I have become more than ever convinced that the general officers of this command are almost unanimously opposed to another crossing of the river; but I am still of the opinion that the crossing should be attempted, and I have accordingly issued orders to the engineers and artillery to prepare for it.¹ There is much hazard in it, as there always is in the majority of military movements, and I cannot begin the movement without giving you notice of it, particularly as I know so little of the effect that it may have upon other movements of distant armies.

The influence of your telegram the other day is still upon me, and has impressed me with the idea that there are many parts of the problem which influence you that are not known to me.

In order to relieve you from all embarrassment in my case, I inclose with this my resignation of my commission as major-general of volunteers, which you can have accepted if my movement is not in accordance with the views of yourself and your military advisers.

¹ This order resulted in the famous "mud march" of January 21, 1863, which failed so ludicrously.

I have taken the liberty to write to you personally upon this subject, because it was necessary, as I learn from General Halleck, for you to approve of my general plan, written at Warrenton, before I could commence the movement; and I think it quite as necessary that you should know of the important movement I am about to make, particularly as it will have to be made in opposition to the views of nearly all my general officers, and after the receipt of a despatch from you informing me of the opinion of some of them who had visited you.,

In conversation with you on New Year's morning, I was led to express some opinions which I afterward felt it my duty to place on paper, and to express them verbally to the gentlemen of whom we were speaking, which I did in your presence after handing you the letter. You were not disposed then, as I saw, to retain the letter, and I took it back, but I now return it to you for record, if you wish it.

I beg leave to say that my resignation is not sent in in any spirit of insubordination, but, as I before said, simply to relieve you from any embarrassment in changing commanders where lack of confidence may have rendered it necessary.

The bearer of this will bring me any answer, or I should be glad to hear from you by telegraph in cipher.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

A. E. BURNSIDE,
Major-General, Commanding Army of the Potomac.

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

WASHINGTON, January 7, 1863.

MAJOR-GENERAL BURNSIDE, Commanding, etc.,
Falmouth.

General: Your communication of the 5th was delivered to me by your aide-de-camp at 12 M. to-day.

In all my communications and interviews with you since you took command of the Army of the Potomac, I have advised a forward movement across the Rapahannock. At our interview at Warrenton I urged that you should cross by the fords above Fredericksburg, rather than to fall down to that place; and when I left you at Warrenton it was understood that at least a considerable part of your army would cross by the fords, and I so represented to the President. It was this modification of the plan proposed by you that I telegraphed you had received his approval. When the attempt at Fredericksburg was abandoned, I advised you to renew the attempt at some other point, either in whole or in part to turn the enemy's works, or to threaten their wings or communications; in other words, to keep the enemy occupied till a favorable opportunity offered to strike a decisive blow. I particularly advised you to use your cavalry and light artillery upon his communications, and attempt to cut off his supplies and engage him at an advantage.

In all our interviews I have urged that our first object was, not Richmond, but the defeat or scattering of Lee's army, which threatened Washington and

the line of the upper Potomac. I now recur to these things simply to remind you of the general views which I have expressed, and which I still hold.

The circumstances of the case, however, have somewhat changed since the early part of November. The chances of an extended line of operations are now on account of the advanced season, much less than then. But the chances are still in our favor to meet and defeat the enemy on the Rappahannock, if we can effect a crossing in a position where we can meet the enemy on favorable or even equal terms. I therefore still advise a movement against him. The character of that movement, however, must depend upon circumstances which may change any day and almost any hour. If the enemy should concentrate his forces at the place you have selected for a crossing, make it a feint and try another place. Again, the circumstances at the time may be such as to render an attempt to cross the entire army not advisable. In that case theory suggests that, while the enemy concentrates at that point, advantages can be gained by crossing smaller forces at other points to cut off his lines, destroy his communication, and capture his rear-guards, outposts, etc. The great object is to occupy the enemy, to prevent his making large detachments or distant raids, and to injure him all you can with the least injury to yourself. If this can be best accomplished by feints of a general crossing and detached real crossings, take that course; if by an actual general crossing, with feints on other points, adopt that course. There seem to me to be many reasons why a



W. H. Dyer.

London.

crossing at some point should be attempted. It will not do to keep your large army inactive. As you yourself admit, it devolves on you to decide upon the time, place, and character of the crossing which you may attempt. I can only advise that an attempt be made, and as early as possible.

Very respectfully, your obedient servant,
H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

[*Indorsement.*]

January 8, 1863.

General Burnside: I understand General Halleck has sent you a letter of which this is a copy. I approve this letter. I deplore the want of concurrence with you in opinion by your general officers, but I do not see the remedy. Be cautious, and do not understand that the government or country is driving you. I do not yet see how I could profit by changing the command of the Army of the Potomac; and if I did, I should not wish to do it by accepting the resignation of your commission. A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL J. A. MCCLERNAND

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 8, 1863.

My dear Sir: Your interesting communication by the hand of Major Scates is received. I never did ask more, nor ever was willing to accept less, than for all the States, and the people thereof, to take and hold their places and

their rights in the Union, under the Constitution of the United States. For this alone have I felt authorized to struggle and I seek neither more nor less now. Still, to use a coarse but an expressive figure, "broken eggs cannot be mended." I have issued the Emancipation Proclamation, and I cannot retract it. After the commencement of hostilities, I struggled nearly a year and a half to get along without touching the "institution"; and when finally I conditionally determined to touch it, I gave a hundred days' fair notice of my purpose to all the States and people, within which time they could have turned it wholly aside by simply again becoming good citizens of the United States.

They chose to disregard it, and I made the peremptory proclamation on what appeared to me to be a military necessity. And being made, it must stand. As to the States not included in it, of course they can have their rights in the Union as of old. Even the people of the States included, if they choose, need not to be hurt by it. Let them adopt systems of apprenticeship for the colored people, conforming substantially to the most approved plans of gradual emancipation; and with the aid they can have from the General Government they may be nearly as well off, in this respect, as if the present trouble had not occurred, and much better off than they can

possibly be if the contest continues persistently.

As to any dread of my having a "purpose to enslave or exterminate the whites of the South," I can scarcely believe that such dread exists. It is too absurd. I believe you can be my personal witness that no man is less to be dreaded for undue severity in any case.

If the friends you mention really wish to have peace upon the old terms, they should act at once. Every day makes the case more difficult. They can so act with entire safety, so far as I am concerned.

I think you had better not make this letter public; but you may rely confidently on my standing by whatever I have said in it. Please write me if anything more comes to light.

Yours very truly, A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR JOHNSON

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 8, 1863.

Governor Johnson, Nashville, Tennessee:

A despatch of yesterday from Nashville says the body of Captain Todd, of the Sixth Kentucky, was brought in to-day.

Please tell me what was his Christian name, and whether he was in our service or that of the enemy. I should also be glad to have your impression as to the effect the late operations

about Murfreesborough will have on the prospects of Tennessee.

A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, January 9, 1863

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit for the consideration of Congress, and with a view to the adoption of such measures in relation to the subject of it as may be deemed expedient, a copy of a note of the 8th instant, addressed to the Secretary of State by the minister resident of the Hanseatic republics accredited to this government, concerning an international agricultural exhibition to be held next summer in the city of Hamburg.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL S. R. CURTIS

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 10, 1863.

Major-General Curtis, St. Louis, Missouri:

I understand there is considerable trouble with the slaves in Missouri. Please do your best to keep peace on the question for two or three weeks, by which time we hope to do something here toward settling the question in Missouri.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR JOHNSON

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 10, 1863.

Governor Johnson, Nashville, Tennessee:

Yours received. I presume the remains of Captain Todd are in the hands of his family and friends, and I wish to give no order on the subject; but I do wish your opinion of the effects of the late battles about Murfreesborough upon the prospects of Tennessee.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GOVERNOR BUCKINGHAM

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 12, 1863.

His Excellency the Governor of Connecticut:

It is with feelings of sincere pleasure and gratitude that I acknowledge the receipt of your kind favor of the 2d of January, conveying the resolutions of the legislature of Connecticut, approved December 24, 1862.

Be assured, my dear sir, that I am deeply gratified by this new proof of the loyalty and patriotic devotion of the people of your State, and that I most gratefully appreciate their expressions toward myself, which are at once so generous and so kind.

I have the honor to be, very truly, your obedient servant.

A. LINCOLN.

INSTRUCTION TO THE JUDGE-ADVOCATE-
GENERAL

WAR DEPARTMENT, January 12, 1863.

The Judge-Advocate-General is instructed to revise the proceedings of the court-martial in the case of Major-General Fitz-John Porter, and to report fully upon any legal questions that may have arisen in them, and upon the bearing of the testimony in reference to the charges and specifications exhibited against the accused, and upon which he was tried. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL J. A. DIX

(Private and Confidential.)

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 14, 1863.

My dear Sir: The proclamation has been issued. We were not succeeding—at best were progressing too slowly—without it. Now that we have it, and bear all the disadvantages of it (as we do bear some in certain quarters), we must also take some benefit from it, if practicable. I therefore will thank you for your well-considered opinion whether Fortress Monroe and Yorktown, one or both, could not, in whole or in part, be garrisoned by colored troops, leaving the white forces now necessary at those places to be employed elsewhere.

Yours very truly, A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL S. R. CURTIS

WAR DEPARTMENT, January 14, 1863.

Major-General Curtis, St. Louis, Missouri:

The President's attention having been called to the recent order of your provost-marshal in St. Louis, published in the newspapers, it is disapproved by him, and he directs:

1st. That the order be suspended.

2d. That all orders of provost-marshals in the State of Missouri respecting trade, commerce, or anything but the discipline and government of the troops in the United States service, be also suspended, and the provost-marshals be relieved from service in such capacity, excepting at St. Louis.

Further instructions on this subject will be transmitted by mail. You will please acknowledge the receipt of this telegram.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
January 14, 1863

TO *THE HOUSE of Representatives:*
The Secretary of State has submitted to me a resolution of the House of Representatives of the 5th instant, which has been delivered to him, and which is in the following words:

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be requested to communicate to this House, if not, in his judgment, incompatible with the public interest, why our minister in New Granada has not presented his credentials to the actual government of that country; also the reasons for which Señor Murillo is not recognized by the United States as the diplomatic representative of the Mosquera government of that country; also, what negotiations have been had, if any, with General Herran as the representative of Ospina's government in New Granada since it went into existence.

On the twelfth day of December, 1846, a treaty of amity, peace, and concord was concluded between the United States of America and the republic of New Granada, which is still in force. On the seventh day of December, 1847,

General Pedro Alcantára Herran, who had been duly accredited, was received here as the envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary of that republic. On the thirtieth day of August, 1849, Señor Don Rafael Rivas was received by this government as *chargé d'affaires* of the same republic. On the fifth day of December, 1851, a consular convention was concluded between that republic and the United States, which treaty was signed on behalf of the republic of Granada by the same Señor Rivas. This treaty is still in force. On the 27th of April, 1852, Señor Don Victoriano de Diego Paredes was received as *chargé d'affaires* of the republic of New Granada. On the 20th of June, 1855, General Pedro Alcantára Herran was again received as envoy extraordinary and minister plenipotentiary duly accredited by the republic of New Granada, and he has ever since remained under the same credentials as the representative of that republic near the government of the United States. On the 10th of September, 1857, a claims convention was concluded between the United States and the republic of Granada. This convention is still in force, and has in part been executed. In May, 1858, the constitution of the republic was remodeled, and the nation assumed the political title of the "Granadian Confederacy." This fact was formally an-

nounced to this government, but without any change in their representative here. Previous to the 4th of March, 1861, a revolutionary war against the republic of New Granada, which had thus been recognized and treated with by the United States, broke out in New Granada, assuming to set up a new government under the name of the "United States of Colombia." This war has had various vicissitudes, sometimes favorable, sometimes adverse, to the revolutionary movements. The revolutionary organization has hitherto been simply a military provisional power, and no definitive constitution of government has yet been established in New Granada in place of that organized by the constitution of 1858. The minister of the United States to the Granadian Confederacy who was appointed on the twenty-ninth day of May, 1861, was directed, in view of the occupation of the capital by the revolutionary party and of the uncertainty of the civil war, not to present his credentials to either the government of the Granadian Confederacy or to the provisional military government, but to conduct his affairs informally, as is customary in such cases, and to report the progress of events and await the instructions of this government. The advices which have been received from him have not hitherto been sufficiently conclusive to determine me to recognize

the revolutionary government. General Herran being here, with full authority from the government of New Granada, which had been so long recognized by the United States, I have not received any representative from the revolutionary government, which has not yet been recognized, because such a proceeding would in itself be an act of recognition.

Official communications have been had on various incidental and occasional questions with General Herran as the minister plenipotentiary and envoy extraordinary of the Granadian Confederacy, but in no other character. No definitive measure or proceeding has resulted from these communications, and a communication of them at present would not, in my judgment, be compatible with the public interest.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

*NOTE TO SECRETARY STANTON

January 15, 1863.

Secretary of War: Please see Mr. Stafford, who wants to assist in raising colored troops in Missouri.

A LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, January 17, 1863

To the Senate and House of Representatives:
I have signed the joint resolution to provide for the immediate payment of the army and navy of

the United States, passed by the House of Representatives on the 14th, and by the Senate on the 15th instant. The joint resolution is a simple authority, amounting, however, under existing circumstances to a direction, to the Secretary of the Treasury, to make an additional issue of one hundred millions of dollars in United States notes, if so much money is needed, for the payment of the army and navy. My approval is given in order that every possible facility may be afforded for the prompt discharge of all arrears of pay due to our soldiers and our sailors.

While giving this approval, however, I think it my duty to express my sincere regret that it has been found necessary to authorize so large an additional issue of United States notes, when this circulation and that of the suspended banks together have become already so redundant as to increase prices beyond real values, thereby augmenting the cost of living, to the injury of labor, and the cost of supplies, to the injury of the whole country. It seems very plain that continued issues of United States notes, without any check to the issues of suspended banks, and without adequate provision for the raising of money by loans, and for funding the issues, so as to keep them within due limits, must soon produce disastrous consequences; and this matter appears to me so important that I feel bound

to avail myself of this occasion to ask the special attention of Congress to it.

That Congress has power to regulate the currency of the country can hardly admit of a doubt, and that a judicious measure to prevent the deterioration of this currency by a reasonable taxation of bank circulation or otherwise is needed, seems equally clear. Independently of this general consideration, it would be unjust to the people at large to exempt banks enjoying the special privilege of circulation from their just proportion of the public burdens.

In order to raise money by way of loans most easily and cheaply, it is clearly necessary to give every possible support to the public credit. To that end, a uniform currency in which taxes, subscriptions to loans, and all other ordinary public dues as well as all private dues may be paid, is almost if not quite indispensable. Such a currency can be furnished by banking associations organized under a general act of Congress, as suggested in my message at the beginning of the present session. The securing of this circulation by the pledge of United States bonds, as therein suggested, would still further facilitate loans, by increasing the present and causing a future demand for such bonds.

In view of the actual financial embarrassments of the government, and of the greater em-

barrassment sure to come if the necessary means of relief be not afforded, I feel that I should not perform my duty by a simple announcement of my approval of the joint resolution, which proposes relief only by increasing circulation, without expressing my earnest desire that measures such in substance as those I have just referred to, may receive the early sanction of Congress. By such measures, in my opinion, will payment be most certainly secured, not only to the army and navy, but to all honest creditors of the government, and satisfactory provision made for future demands on the treasury.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO THE WORKING-MEN OF MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 19, 1863.

To the Working-men of Manchester: I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of the address and resolutions which you sent me on the eve of the new year. When I came, on the 4th of March, 1861, through a free and constitutional election to preside in the Government of the United States, the country was found at the verge of civil war. Whatever might have been the cause, or whosoever the fault, one duty, paramount to all others, was before me, namely,

to maintain and preserve at once the Constitution and the integrity of the Federal Republic. A conscientious purpose to perform this duty is the key to all the measures of administration which have been and to all which will hereafter be pursued. Under our frame of government and my official oath, I could not depart from this purpose if I would. It is not always in the power of governments to enlarge or restrict the scope of moral results which follow the policies that they may deem it necessary for the public safety from time to time to adopt.

I have understood well that the duty of self-preservation rests solely with the American people; but I have at the same time been aware that favor or disfavor of foreign nations might have a material influence in enlarging or prolonging the struggle with disloyal men in which the country is engaged. A fair examination of history has served to authorize a belief that the past actions and influences of the United States were generally regarded as having been beneficial toward mankind. I have, therefore, reckoned upon the forbearance of nations. Circumstances—to some of which you kindly allude—induce me especially to expect that if justice and good faith should be practised by the United States, they would encounter no hostile influence on the part of Great Britain. It is now a pleas-

ant duty to acknowledge the demonstration you have given of your desire that a spirit of amity and peace toward this country may prevail in the councils of your Queen, who is respected and esteemed in your own country only more than she is by the kindred nation which has its home on this side of the Atlantic.

I know and deeply deplore the sufferings which the working-men at Manchester, and in all Europe, are called to endure in this crisis. It has been often and studiously represented that the attempt to overthrow this government, which was built upon the foundation of human rights, and to substitute for it one which should rest exclusively on the basis of human slavery, was likely to obtain the favor of Europe. Through the action of our disloyal citizens, the working-men of Europe have been subjected to severe trials, for the purpose of forcing their sanction to that attempt. Under the circumstances, I cannot but regard your decisive utterances upon the question as an instance of sublime Christian heroism which has not been surpassed in any age or in any country. It is indeed an energetic and reinspiring assurance of the inherent power of truth, and of the ultimate and universal triumph of justice, humanity and freedom. I do not doubt that the sentiments you have expressed will be sus-

tained by your great nation; and, on the other hand, I have no hesitation in assuring you that they will excite admiration, esteem and the most reciprocal feelings of friendship among the American people. I hail this interchange of sentiment, therefore, as an augury that whatever else may happen, whatever misfortune may befall your country or my own, the peace and friendship which now exist between the two nations will be, as it shall be my desire to make them, perpetual.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

LETTER TO S. T. GLOVER

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 20, 1863

My dear Sir: Yours of January 12, stating the distressed condition of the people in southwest Missouri, and urging the completion of the railroad to Springfield, is just received. Of course I deplore the distress of the people in that section and elsewhere. Nor is the thought of extending the railroad new to me. But the military necessity for it is not so patent but that Congress would try to restrain me in some way, were I to attempt it. I am very glad to believe that the late military operations in Missouri and Arkansas are at least promising of repose to southwest Missouri. Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO THE SENATE, January 20, 1863

To the Senate of the United States: I transmit herewith a report from the Secretary of State, in answer to the resolution of the Senate relative to the correspondence between this government and the Mexican minister in relation to the exportation of articles contraband of war for the use of the French army in Mexico.¹

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, January 21, 1863

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives: I submit herewith for your consideration the joint resolutions of the corporate authorities of the city of Washington, adopted September 27, 1862, and a memorial of the same under date of October 28, 1862, both relating to and urging the construction of certain railroads concentrating upon the city of Washington.

In presenting this memorial and the joint resolutions to you I am not prepared to say more than that the subject is one of great practical importance, and that I hope it will receive the attention of Congress.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

¹ While apparently viewing the French emperor's intentions as friendly, the President made it clear that he would not neglect to insure the safety of the United States from Napoleonic political ambitions.

INDORSEMENT ON THE PROCEEDINGS AND SENTENCE OF THE FITZ-JOHN PORTER COURT-MARTIAL, January 21, 1863

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, January 13, 1863.

In compliance with the Sixty-fifth Article of War, these whole proceedings are transmitted to the Secretary of War, to be laid before the President of the United States.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

January 21, 1863.

The foregoing proceedings, findings, and sentence in the foregoing case of Major-General Fitz-John Porter are approved and confirmed, and it is ordered that the said Fitz-John Porter be, and he hereby is, cashiered and dismissed from the service of the United States as a major-general of volunteers, and as colonel and brevet brigadier-general in the regular service of the United States, and forever disqualified from holding any office of trust or profit under the Government of the United States.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

LETTER FROM GENERAL HALLECK TO GENERAL
U. S. GRANT

HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY,

WASHINGTON, January 21, 1863.

General: The President has directed that so

much of Arkansas as you may desire to control be temporarily attached to your department. This will give you control of both banks of the river.

In your operations down the Mississippi you must not rely too confidently upon any direct coöperation of General Banks and the lower flotilla, as it is possible that they may not be able to pass or reduce Port Hudson. They, however, will do everything in their power to form a junction with you at Vicksburg. If they should not be able to effect this, they will at least occupy a portion of the enemy's forces, and prevent them from reinforcing Vicksburg. I hope, however, that they will do still better and be able to join you.

It may be proper to give you some explanation of the revocation of your order expelling all Jews from your department. The President has no objection to your expelling traitors and Jew peddlers, which, I suppose, was the object of your order; but as it in terms proscribed an entire religious class, some of whom are fighting in our ranks, the President deemed it necessary to revoke it.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

H. W. HALLECK,
General-in-Chief.

LETTER TO GENERAL J. A. MCCLERNAND

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 22, 1863.

My dear Sir: Yours of the 7th was received yesterday. I need not recite because you remember the contents. The charges in their nature are such that I must know as much about the facts involved as you can. I have too many family controversies, so to speak, already on my hands to voluntarily, or so long as I can avoid it, take up another. You are now doing well—well for the country, and well for yourself—much better than you could possibly be if engaged in open war with General Halleck. Allow me to beg that, for your sake, for my sake, and for the country's sake, you give your whole attention to the better work.

Your success upon the Arkansas was both brilliant and valuable, and is fully appreciated by the country and government. Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN

LETTER TO GENERAL FREDERICK STEELE

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 22, 1863.

Sir: So far as respects your military record and reputation, it seems highly fit and proper that you should be promoted to a major-general-

ship; and I should nominate you for it at once were it not for a document presented to me, of which the enclosed is a copy. With a satisfactory explanation, I will gladly make the nomination, and in such way that the time from now till then shall not be lost to you. Without such explanation I could scarcely bring myself to make the nomination; and I think it is certain the Senate would not confirm it if made.

Your obedient servant,

A. LINCOLN.

MEMORANDUM

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 22, 1863.

To-day Mr. Prentiss calls as attorney of Herman Koppel, saying the latter is a loyal citizen; that he resided at Charleston, S. C., at the beginning of the rebellion; that he converted what he had into a few bales of cotton and other articles apparently to break the blockade as a mode of getting out, but really intending to surrender to the blockade, which he did of purpose and with no effort to avoid it; that his property has been condemned by a prize court, and he appeals to me to remit to him the proceeds of the property, or at least the government's moiety of it.

Admitting this all to be true, is it both lawful and proper for me to do this?

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, January 23, 1863

To the Senate and House of Representatives:

I transmit for the consideration of Congress a report from the Secretary of State, transmitting the regulations, decrees, and orders for the government of the United States consular courts in Turkey.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY STANTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 23, 1863.

Sir: I think General Butler should go to New Orleans again. He is unwilling to go unless he is restored to the command of the department. He should start by the 1st of February, and should take some force with him. The whole must be so managed as to not wrong or wound the feelings of General Banks. His original wish was to go to Texas; and it must be arranged for him to do this now with a substantial force; and yet he must not go to the endangering the opening of the Mississippi. I hope this may be done by the time General Butler shall arrive there; but whether or not, I think we cannot longer dispense with General Butler's services.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

ORDER RELIEVING GENERAL A. E. BURNSIDE
AND MAKING OTHER CHANGES

(General Orders No. 20.)

WAR DEPARTMENT, ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE,
WASHINGTON, D. C., January 25, 1863.

I. The President of the United States has directed:

1st. That Major-General A. E. Burnside, at his own request, be relieved from the command of the Army of the Potomac.

2d. That Major-General E. V. Sumner, at his own request, be relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac.

3d. That Major-General W. B. Franklin be relieved from duty in the Army of the Potomac.

4th. That Major-General J. Hooker be assigned to the command of the Army of the Potomac.

II. The officers relieved as above will report in person to the adjutant-general of the army.

By order of the Secretary of War:

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Assistant Adjutant-General.

MESSAGE TO THE SENATE, January 26, 1863

To the Senate of the United States: In compliance with the resolution of the Senate on the 13th instant, requesting a copy of certain cor-



E. P. Sumner

respondence respecting the capture of British vessels sailing from one British port to another, having on board contraband of war intended for the use of the insurgents, I have the honor to transmit a report from the Secretary of State, and the documents by which it was accompanied.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL J. HOOKER¹

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., January 26, 1863.

GENERAL: I have placed you at the head of the Army of the Potomac. Of course I have done this upon what appear to me to be sufficient reasons, and yet I think it best for you to know that there are some things in regard to which I am not quite satisfied with you. I believe you to be a brave and skillful soldier, which of course I like. I also believe you do not mix politics with your profession, in which you are right. You have confidence in yourself, which is a valuable if not an indispensable quality. You are ambitious, which, within reasonable bounds, does good rather than harm; but I think that during General Burnside's command of the army you have taken

¹ Upon General Burnside's resignation, Lincoln selected General Hooker to fill his place as Commander of the Army of the Potomac. Both Stanton and Halleck were dissatisfied with the choice. They had set their hearts upon General Rosecrans. Of Lincoln's letter addressed to General Hooker, Nicolay and Hay state that "perhaps the most remarkable thing . . . is the evidence it gives how completely the genius of President Lincoln had by this, the middle of his presidential term, risen to the full height of his great national duties and responsibility."

counsel of your ambition and thwarted him as much as you could, in which you did a great wrong to the country and to a most meritorious and honorable brother officer. I have heard, in such a way as to believe it, of your recently saying that both the army and the government needed a dictator. Of course it was not for this, but in spite of it, that I have given you the command. Only those generals who gain successes can set up dictators. What I now ask of you is military success, and I will risk the dictatorship. The government will support you to the utmost of its ability, which is neither more nor less than it has done and will do for all commanders. I much fear that the spirit which you have aided to infuse into the army, of criticising their commander and withholding confidence from him, will now turn upon you. I shall assist you as far as I can to put it down. Neither you nor Napoleon, if he were alive again, could get any good out of an army while such a spirit prevails in it; and now beware of rashness. Beware of rashness, but with energy and sleepless vigilance go forward and give us victories.

Yours very truly, A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, January 28, 1863

To the Senate and House of Representatives:
In conformity to the law of July 16, 1862, I most

cordially recommend that Commander David D. Porter, United States Navy, acting rear-admiral commanding the Mississippi squadron, receive a vote of thanks of Congress for the bravery and skill displayed in the attack on the post of Arkansas, which surrendered to the combined military and naval forces on the 10th instant.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL BUTLER

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, January 28, 1863.

Major-General Butler, Lowell, Mass.:
Please come here immediately. Telegraph me about what time you will arrive.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY STANTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION, January 29, 1863.

Dear Sir: Mr. Speed tells me you wish to appoint him to some agency about the Goose Creek Salt-works, and he wishes to decline it, and that William P. Thomasson may be appointed. I personally know Mr. Thomasson to be an honest and very competent man, and fully in sympathy with the administration. I think he should be appointed.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

NOTE TO THURLOW WEED

WASHINGTON, January 29, 1863.

Dear Sir: Your valedictory to the patrons of the Albany "Evening Journal" brings me a good deal of uneasiness. What does it mean?

Truly yours,

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAMS TO GENERAL DIX, January 29-31,
1863

WAR DEPARTMENT, January 29, 1863.

Major-General Dix, Fort Monroe, Va.:

Do Richmond papers have anything from Vicksburg?

A. LINCOLN.

WAR DEPARTMENT, January 30, 1863.

Major-General Dix, Fort Monroe, Va.:

What iron-clads if any have gone out of Hampton Roads within the last two days?

A. LINCOLN.

WAR DEPARTMENT, January 31, 1863.

Major-General Dix, Fort Monroe, Va.:

Corcoran's and Pryor's battle terminated. Have you any news through Richmond papers or otherwise?

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL SCHENCK

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON CITY, D. C., January 31, 1863.

Major-General Schenck, Baltimore, Md.:

I do not take jurisdiction of the pass question. Exercise your own discretion as to whether Judge Pettis shall have a pass. A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR MORTON

(Cipher.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 1, 1863.

Governor O. P. Morton, Indianapolis, Ind.:

I think it would not do for me to meet you at Harrisburg. It would be known and would be misconstrued a thousand ways. Of course if the whole truth could be told and accepted as the truth, it would do no harm, but that is impossible. A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL S. T. BOYLE

EXECUTIVE MANSION, February 1, 1863.

Dear Sir: Yesterday Senator Powell left a paper with me, with a request which I indorsed upon it at the time, and the contents of which paper and request appear by the inclosed copies. You perceive at once what the object is. This course of procedure, though just and politic in

some cases, is so liable to gross abuse as to do great injustice in some others, and give the government immense trouble. I will thank you, therefore, if you will, without unreasonable delay, ascertain the facts of these cases and report them to me, together with such other information as may best enable me to understand the whole case. Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

[Indorsement on paper left by Powell]

Senator Powell calls and leaves this paper and asks that an order be made on the persons stated to have made the collections to refund the money to the persons respectively from whom collected, and all moneys collected in like manner in the counties of Henderson, Union, Hopkins, and Webster.

January 31, 1863.

LETTER TO THE WORKING-MEN OF LONDON, ENGLAND

EXECUTIVE MANSION, February 2, 1863.

To the Working-men of London: I have received the New Year's address which you have sent me, with a sincere appreciation of the exalted and humane sentiments by which it was inspired.

As these sentiments are manifestly the enduring support of the free institutions of England, so I am sure also that they constitute the only

reliable basis for free institutions throughout the world.

The resources, advantages, and powers of the American people are very great, and they have consequently succeeded to equally great responsibilities. It seems to have devolved upon them to test whether a government established on the principles of human freedom can be maintained against an effort to build one upon the exclusive foundation of human bondage. They will rejoice with me in the new evidences which your proceedings furnish that the magnanimity they are exhibiting is justly estimated by the true friends of freedom and humanity in foreign countries.

Accept my best wishes for your individual welfare, and for the welfare and happiness of the whole British people.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
February 4, 1863

To the House of Representatives: In compliance with the resolution of the House of Representatives on the 5th December last, requesting information upon the present condition of Mexico, I transmit a report from the Secretary of State, and the papers by which it was accompanied.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL SCHENCK

(Cipher.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 4, 1863.

Major-General Schenck, Baltimore, Md.:

I hear of some difficulty in the streets of Baltimore yesterday. What is the amount of it?

A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO THE SENATE, February 6, 1863.

To the Senate of the United States: I transmit herewith a report from the Secretary of State, with accompanying documents, in answer to the resolution of the Senate on the 30th ultimo.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO THE SENATE, February 6, 1863

To the Senate of the United States: In compliance with the resolution of the Senate of the United States of yesterday, requesting information in regard to the death of General Ward, a citizen of the United States in the military service of the Chinese government, I transmit a copy of a despatch of the 27th of October last, and of its accompaniment, from the minister of the United States in China.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO THE SENATE, February 10, 1863

To the Senate of the United States: In answer to the resolution of the Senate of yesterday, requesting information touching the visit of M. Mercier to Richmond in April last, I transmit a report from the Secretary of State, to whom the resolution was referred.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO THE SENATE, February 12, 1863

To the Senate of the United States: In answer to the resolution of the Senate of the 10th instant, requesting information on the subject of mediation, arbitration, or other measures looking to the termination of the existing civil war, I transmit a report from the Secretary of State, and the documents by which it was accompanied.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL W. S. ROSECRANS

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, February 12, 1863.

Major-General Rosecrans, Murfreesborough, Tennessee: Your despatch about "river patrolling" received. I have called the Secretary of the Navy, Secretary of War, and General-in-Chief together, and submitted it to them, who

promise to do their very best in the case. I cannot take it into my own hands without producing inextricable confusion. A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO THE SENATE, February 13, 1863

To the Senate of the United States: I transmit to the Senate, in answer to their resolution of the 12th instant, the accompanying report from the Secretary of State. A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, February 13, 1863.

HON. GALUSHA A. GROW,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

Sir: I herewith communicate to the House of Representatives, in answer to their resolution of the 18th of December last, a report from the Secretary of the Interior containing all the information in the possession of the department respecting the causes of the recent outbreaks of the Indian tribes in the Northwest which has not heretofore been submitted to Congress.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL W. S. ROSECRANS

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, February 17, 1863.

My dear Sir: In no other way does the enemy give us so much trouble at so little expense

to himself as by the raids of rapidly moving small bodies of troops, largely if not wholly mounted, harassing and discouraging loyal residents, supplying themselves with provisions, clothing, horses, and the like, surprising and capturing small detachments of our forces, and breaking our communications. And this will increase just in proportion as his larger armies shall weaken and wane. Nor can these raids be successfully met by even larger forces of our own of the same kind acting merely on the defensive. I think we should organize proper forces and make counter raids. We should not capture so much of supplies from them as they have done from us, but it would trouble them more to repair railroads and bridges than it does us. What think you of trying to get up such a corps in your army? Could you do it without any or many additional troops (which we have not to give you), provided we furnish horses, suitable arms, and other appointments? Please consider this not as an order, but as a suggestion.

Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

[*Indorsement*]

While I wish the required arms to be furnished to General Rosecrans, I have made no promise on the subject except what you can find in the within copy of letter.

March 27, 1863.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO W. H. HERNDON

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, D. C., February 19, 1863.

William H. Herndon, Springfield, Ill.:

Would you accept a job of about a month's duration at Saint Louis, \$5 a day and mileage?
Answer.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO REV. ALEXANDER REED

EXECUTIVE MANSION, February 22, 1863.

My dear Sir: Your note, by which you, as general superintendent of the United States Christian Commission, invite me to preside at a meeting to be held this day at the hall of the House of Representatives in this city, is received. While, for reasons which I deem sufficient, I must decline to preside, I cannot withhold my approval of the meeting and its worthy objects. Whatever shall be sincerely, and in God's name, devised for the good of the soldier and seaman in their hard spheres of duty, can scarcely fail to be blest. And whatever shall tend to turn our thoughts from the unreasoning and uncharitable passions, prejudices, and jealousies incident to a great national trouble such as ours, and to fix them upon the vast and long-enduring consequences, for weal or for woe,

which are to result from the struggle, and especially to strengthen our reliance on the Supreme Being for the final triumph of the right, cannot but be well for us all. The birthday of Washington and the Christian Sabbath coinciding this year, and suggesting together the highest interests of this life and of that to come, is most propitious for the meeting proposed. Your obedient servant,

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL HOOKER

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, February 27, 1863.

Major-General Hooker: If it will be no detriment to the service I will be obliged for Capt. Henry A. Marchant, of Company I, Twenty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, to come here and remain four or five days.

A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO THE SENATE, February 28, 1863

To the Senate of the United States: In compliance with the resolution of the Senate of the 26th instant, requesting a copy of any correspondence which may take place between me and working-men in England, I transmit the papers mentioned in the subjoined list.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

NOTE TO SECRETARY STANTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, February 28, 1863.

My dear Sir: Mr. Eastman says you said he would have to come to me about the guns, or something to that effect. Do you know any law giving me control of the case? If so, please say so in writing.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, February 28, 1863

To the Senate and House of Representatives:
I transmit, for the consideration of Congress, a despatch to the Secretary of State from the United States consul at Liverpool, and the address to which it refers, of the distressed operatives of Blackburn, in England, to the New York relief committee, and to the inhabitants of the United States generally.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

PROCLAMATION CONVENING THE SENATE, February 28, 1863

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

A Proclamation

Whereas, objects of interest to the United States require that the Senate should be con-

vened at twelve o'clock on the 4th of March next, to receive and act upon such communications as may be made to it on the part of the Executive:

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, have considered it to be my duty to issue this my proclamation declaring that an extraordinary occasion requires the Senate of the United States to convene for the transaction of business at the Capitol in the city of Washington, on the fourth day of March next, at twelve o'clock at noon on that day, of which all who shall at that time be entitled to act as members of that body are hereby required to take notice.

Given under my hand and the seal of the United States, at Washington, the twenty-eighth day of February, in the [L. S.] year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty-seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

LETTER TO SECRETARY CHASE

EXECUTIVE MANSION, March 2, 1863.

My dear Sir: After much reflection, and

with a good deal of pain that it is adverse to your wish, I have concluded that it is not best to renominate Mr. Howard for collector of internal revenue at Hartford, Connecticut. Senator Dixon, residing at Hartford, and Mr. Loomis, representative of the district, join in recommending Edward Goodman for the place, and, so far, no one has presented a different man. I will thank you, therefore, to send me a nomination at once for Mr. Goodman.

Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

NOTE TO SECRETARY CHASE

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 2, 1863.

My dear Sir: I see an act under which an assistant collector of the port of New York is to be appointed. Nobody has applied to me for it. Have you any applications or any particular wishes upon the subject? Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

MESSAGE TO CONGRESS, March 2, 1863

To the Senate and House of Representatives:
I transmit to Congress a copy of a preamble and joint resolutions of the legislative assembly of the Territory of New Mexico, accepting the benefits of the act of Congress approved the 2d of July last, entitled "An act donating public

lands to the several States and Territories which may provide colleges for the benefit of agriculture and the mechanic arts."

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY CHASE

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 2, 1863.

My dear Sir: Your note in relation to the collectorship at Hartford is just received. It is a little difficult for me to read; but as I make it out, the matter is now temporarily suspended by agreement of yourself and Senator Dixon; and with which, of course, I am satisfied.

Yours, truly,

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL HOOKER

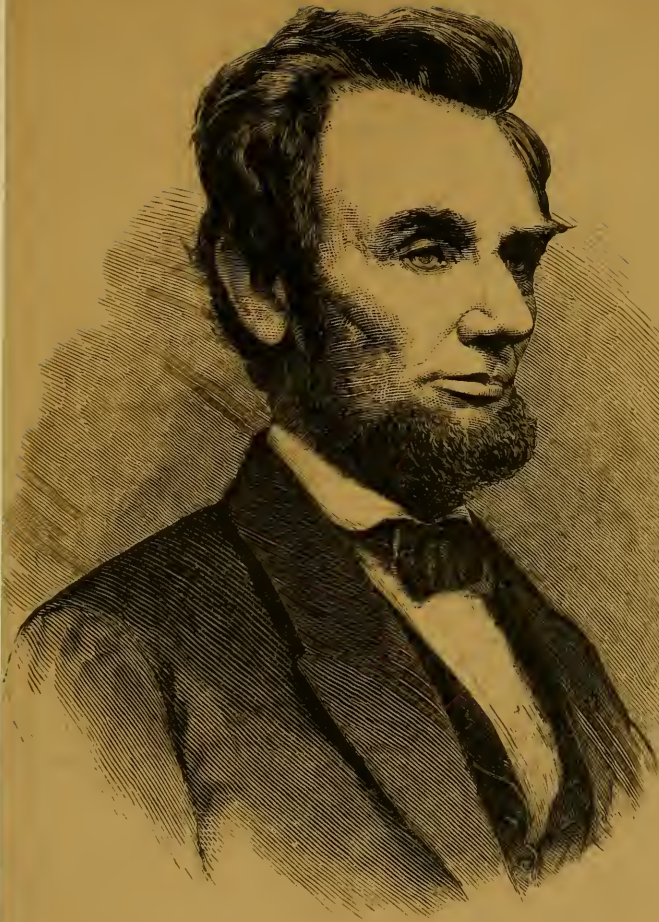
EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 5, 1863.

Major-General Hooker, Commanding Army of the Potomac:

For business purposes I have extended the leave of absence of Capt. Henry A. Marchant, Twenty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers, five days, hoping that it will not interfere with the public service. Please notify the regiment to-day.

A. LINCOLN.



Yours very truly,
A. Lincoln

NOTE TO SECRETARY STANTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 7, 1863.

Hon. Sec. of State. My dear Sir: Please call over, and bring the "Marque & Reprisal" bill with you.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

MEMORANDUM

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 9, 1863.

To-day General William F. Smith calls and asks that his nomination heretofore as a major-general, and his acceptance of it by being assigned to and taking command as a major-general, may be taken and held to be a vacation of his office as a brigadier-general of volunteers, so that he can again take his place in the regular army.

He would also like to have a leave of absence of as long as the service will admit.

*TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR TOD

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 9, 1863.

Governor David Tod, Columbus, Ohio:

I think your advice with that of others would be valuable in the selection of provost-marshals for Ohio.

A. LINCOLN.

PROCLAMATION GRANTING AMNESTY TO SOLDIERS ABSENT WITHOUT LEAVE, March 10, 1863

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

A Proclamation.

In pursuance of the twenty-sixth section of the act of Congress entitled "An act for enrolling and calling out the national forces, and for other purposes," approved on the third day of March, in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, I, Abraham Lincoln, President, and commander-in-chief of the army and navy of the United States do hereby order and command that all soldiers enlisted or drafted in the service of the United States now absent from their regiment without leave, shall forthwith return to their respective regiments.

And I do hereby declare and proclaim that all soldiers now absent from their respective regiments without leave who shall on or before the first day of April, 1863, report themselves at any rendezvous designated by the general orders of the War Department, No. 58, hereunto annexed, may be restored to their respective regiments without punishment, except the forfeiture of pay and allowances during their absence; and all who do not return within the

time above specified shall be arrested as deserters and punished as the law provides.

And whereas, evil-disposed and disloyal persons at sundry places have enticed and procured soldiers to desert and absent themselves from their regiments, thereby weakening the strength of the armies and prolonging the war, giving aid and comfort to the enemy, and cruelly exposing the gallant and faithful soldiers remaining in the ranks to increased hardships and danger: I do therefore call upon all patriotic and faithful citizens to oppose and resist the aforementioned dangerous and treasonable crimes, and to aid in restoring to their regiments all soldiers absent without leave, and to assist in the execution of the act of Congress "for enrolling and calling out the national forces, and for other purposes," and to support the proper authorities in the prosecution and punishment of offenders against said act, and in suppressing the insurrection and rebellion.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand. Done at the city of Washington, this tenth day of March, in the year of our Lord one [L. S.] thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-seventh. ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President: EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL HOOKER

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 13, 1863.

Major-General Hooker: General Stahel wishes to be assigned to General Heintzelman and General Heintzelman also desires it. I would like to oblige both if it would not injure the service in your army, or incommode you. What say you?

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL W. S. ROSECRANS

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 17, 1863.

My dear Sir: I have just received your telegram saying that the "Secretary of War telegraphed after the battle of Stone River: 'Anything you and your command want you can have,'" and then specifying several things you have requested and have not received.

The promise of the Secretary, as you state it, is certainly pretty broad, nevertheless it accords with the feeling of the whole government here toward you. I know not a single enemy of yours here. Still the promise must have a reasonable construction. We know you will not purposely make an unreasonable request, nor persist in one after it shall appear to be

such. Now, as to the matter of a paymaster, you desired one to be permanently attached to your army, and, as I understand, desired that Major Larned should be the man. This was denied you; and you seem to think it was denied partly to disoblige you and partly to disoblige Major Larned—the latter, as you suspect, at the instance of Paymaster-General Andrews. On the contrary, the Secretary of War assures me the request was refused on no personal ground whatever, but because to grant it would derange, and substantially break up, the whole pay-system as now organized, and so organized on very full consideration and sound reason, as believed. There is powerful temptation in money; and it was and is believed that nothing can prevent the paymasters speculating upon the soldiers but a system by which each is to pay certain regiments so soon after he has notice that he is to pay those particular regiments that he has no time or opportunity to lay plans for speculating upon them. This precaution is all lost if paymasters respectively are to serve permanently with the same regiments, and pay them over and over during the war. No special application of this has been intended to be made to Major Larned or to your army. And as to General Andrews, I have in another connection felt a little aggrieved at what seemed to be his

implicit following the advice and suggestions of Major Larned—so ready are we all to cry out and ascribe motives when our own toes are pinched.

Now as to your request that your commission should date from December, 1861. Of course you expected to gain something by this; but you should remember that precisely so much as you should gain by it others would lose by it. If the thing you sought had been exclusively ours, we would have given it cheerfully; but, being the right of other men, we having a merely arbitrary power over it, the taking it from them and giving it to you became a delicate matter and more deserving of consideration. Truth to speak, I do not appreciate this matter of rank on paper as you officers do. The world will not forget that you fought the battle of Stone River, and it will never care a fig whether you rank General Grant on paper, or he so ranks you.

As to the appointment of an aide contrary to your wishes, I knew nothing of it until I received your despatch; and the Secretary of War tells me he has known nothing of it, but will trace it out. The examination of course will extend to the case of R. S. Thomas, whom you say you wish appointed.

And now be assured you wrong both yourself

and us when you even suspect there is not the best disposition on the part of us all here to oblige you.¹

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO HENRY WINTER DAVIS

EXECUTIVE MANSION, March 18, 1863.

My dear Sir: There will be in the new House of Representatives, as there were in the old, some members openly opposing the war, some supporting it unconditionally, and some supporting it with "buts," and "ifs," and "ands." They will divide on the organization of the House—on the election of a Speaker. As you ask my opinion, I give it, that the supporters of the war should send no man to Congress who will not pledge himself to go into caucus with the unconditional supporters of the war, and to abide the action of such caucus and vote for the person therein nominated for Speaker. Let the friends of the government first save the government, and then administer it to their own liking.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

P. S. This is not for publication, but to prevent misunderstanding of what I verbally said to you yesterday.

A. L.

¹ Rosecrans had gained great prestige and popularity by his operations in the west and had been Halleck's choice for command of the Army of the Potomac as against the President's choice of Hooker.

REVOCATION OF SENTENCE OF T. W. KNOX

EXECUTIVE MANSION, March 20, 1863.

Whom it May Concern: Whereas, it appears to my satisfaction that Thomas W. Knox, a correspondent of the New York "Herald," has been by the sentence of a court-martial excluded from the military department under command of Major-General Grant, and also that General Thayer, president of the court-martial which rendered the sentence, and Major-General McClernand, in command of a corps of that department, and many other respectable persons, are of the opinion that Mr. Knox's offense was technical rather than wilfully wrong, and that the sentence should be revoked: now, therefore, said sentence is hereby so far revoked as to allow Mr. Knox to return to General Grant's headquarters, and to remain if General Grant shall give his express assent, and to again leave the department if General Grant shall refuse such assent.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GOVERNOR SEYMOUR

(Private and Confidential.)

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 23, 1863.

Dear Sir: You and I are substantially strangers, and I write this chiefly that we may



U. S. Grant
Gen. H. C.

become better acquainted. I, for the time being, am at the head of a nation which is in great peril, and you are at the head of the greatest State of that nation. As to maintaining the nation's life and integrity, I assume and believe there cannot be a difference of purpose between you and me. If we should differ as to the means, it is important that such difference should be as small as possible; that it should not be enhanced by unjust suspicions on one side or the other. In the performance of my duty the coöperation of your State, as that of others, is needed—in fact, is indispensable. This alone is a sufficient reason why I should wish to be at a good understanding with you. Please write me at least as long a letter as this, of course saying in it just what you think fit.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

MEMORANDUM, March 24, 1863

I think this man, Charles Wiegand, called on me once or oftener, but I really know nothing as to his capacity or merit. If a brigade was promised him by the War Department, I know nothing of it; and not knowing whether he is fit for any place, I could not with propriety recommend him for any.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL S. A. HURLBUT

WASHINGTON, March 25, 1863.

Major-General Hurlbut, Memphis: What news have you? What from Vicksburg? What from Lake Providence? What generally?

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO BENJAMIN GRATZ

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 25, 1863.

Mr. Benjamin Gratz, Lexington, Ky.: Show this to whom it may concern as your authority for allowing Mrs. Shelby to remain at your house, so long as you choose to be responsible for what she may do.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL ROSECRANS

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 25, 1863.

Major-General Rosecrans, Murfreesborough, Tenn.: Your dispatches about General Davis and General Mitchell are received. General Davis' case is not particular, being simply one of a great many recommended and not nominated, because they would transcend the number allowed by law. General Mitchell nominated and rejected by the Senate and I do not think it proper for me to re-nominate him with-



O. M. Mitchell

out a change of circumstances such as the performance of additional service, or an expressed change of purpose on the part of at least some Senators who opposed him. A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GOVERNOR ANDREW JOHNSON

(*Private.*)

EXECUTIVE MANSION, March 26, 1863.

My dear Sir: I am told you have at least thought of raising a negro military force. In my opinion the country now needs no specific thing so much as some man of your ability and position to go to this work. When I speak of your position, I mean that of an eminent citizen of a slave State and himself a slaveholder. The colored population is the great available and yet unavailed force for restoring the Union. The bare sight of fifty thousand armed and drilled black soldiers upon the banks of the Mississippi would end the rebellion at once; and who doubts that we can present that sight if we but take hold in earnest? If you have been thinking of it, please do not dismiss the thought. Yours very truly, A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY CHASE

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 27, 1863.

Dear Sir: Governor Dickinson's business was rather with you than with me. His friend

with him, Edward J. Westcott, has been trading at Newbern, and is hindered from renewing his business there. Please oblige the governor and Mr. Westcott so far as you consistently can.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL N. P. BANKS

(*Private.*)

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, March 29, 1863.

My dear Sir: Hon. Daniel Ullman, with a commission of a brigadier-general and two or three hundred other gentlemen as officers, goes to your department and reports to you, for the purpose of raising a colored brigade. To now avail ourselves of this element of force is very important, if not indispensable. I therefore will thank you to help General Ullman forward with his undertaking as much and as rapidly as you can; and also to carry the general object beyond his particular organization if you find it practicable. The necessity of this is palpable if, as I understand, you are now unable to effect anything with your present force; and which force is soon to be greatly diminished by the expiration of terms of service, as well as by ordinary causes. I shall be very glad if you will take hold of the matter in earnest. You will

receive from the [War] Department a regular order upon this subject. Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

PROCLAMATION APPOINTING A NATIONAL FAST-
DAY, March 30, 1863 ¹

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA:

A Proclamation.

Whereas, the Senate of the United States, devoutly recognizing the supreme authority and just government of Almighty God in all the affairs of men and of nations, has by a resolution requested the President to designate and set apart a day for national prayer and humiliation:

And whereas, it is the duty of nations as well as of men to own their dependence upon the overruling power of God; to confess their sins and transgressions in humble sorrow, yet with assured hope that genuine repentance will lead to mercy and pardon; and to recognize the sublime truth, announced in the Holy Scriptures and proven by all history, that those nations only are blessed whose God is the Lord:

¹Lincoln was profoundly and intensely religious though he never joined a church nor formulated a creed. The current of his religious life and emotion was none the less deep and strong in all the latter part of his life. See his "Meditation," page 52.

And insomuch as we know that by his divine law nations, like individuals, are subjected to punishments and chastisements in this world, may we not justly fear that the awful calamity of civil war which now desolates the land may be but a punishment inflicted upon us for our presumptuous sins, to the needful end of our national reformation as a whole people? We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of Heaven. We have been preserved, these many years, in peace and prosperity. We have grown in numbers, wealth, and power as no other nation has ever grown; but we have forgotten God. We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace, and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us; and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own. Intoxicated with unbroken success, we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us:

It behooves us, then, to humble ourselves before the offended Power, to confess our national sins, and to pray for clemency and forgiveness:

Now, therefore, in compliance with the request, and fully concurring in the views, of the

Senate, I do by this my proclamation designate and set apart Thursday the 30th day of April, 1863, as a day of national humiliation, fasting, and prayer. And I do hereby request all the people to abstain on that day from their ordinary secular pursuits, and to unite at their several places of public worship and their respective homes in keeping the day holy to the Lord, and devoted to the humble discharge of the religious duties proper to that solemn occasion. All this being done in sincerity and truth, let us then rest humbly in the hope authorized by the divine teachings, that the united cry of the nation will be heard on high, and answered with blessings no less than the pardon of our national sins, and the restoration of our now divided and suffering country to its former happy condition of unity and peace.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this thirtieth day of March, in the year of [L. S.] our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

LICENSE OF COMMERCIAL INTERCOURSE

WASHINGTON, EXECUTIVE MANSION,

March 31, 1863.

Whereas, by the act of Congress approved July 13, 1861, entitled "An act to provide for the collection of duties on imports, and for other purposes," all commercial intercourse between the inhabitants of such States as should by proclamation be declared in insurrection against the United States and the citizens of the rest of the United States, was prohibited so long as such conditions of hostility should continue, except as the same shall be licensed and permitted by the President to be conducted and carried on only in pursuance of rules and regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury; and whereas it appears that a partial restoration of such intercourse between the inhabitants of sundry places and sections heretofore declared in insurrection in pursuance of said act, and the citizens of the rest of the United States, will favorably affect the public interests:

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, exercising the authority and discretion confided to me by the said act of Congress, do hereby license and permit such commercial intercourse between the citizens of loyal States and the inhabitants of such

insurrectionary States in the cases and under the restrictions described and expressed in the regulations prescribed by the Secretary of the Treasury, bearing even date with these presents, or in such other regulations as he may hereafter, with my approval, prescribe.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL D. HUNTER

(*Private.*)

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 1, 1863.

My dear Sir: I am glad to see the accounts of your colored force at Jacksonville, Florida. I see the enemy are driving at them fiercely, as is to be expected. It is important to the enemy that such a force shall not take shape and grow and thrive in the South, and in precisely the same proportion it is important to us that it shall. Hence the utmost caution and vigilance is necessary on our part. The enemy will make extra efforts to destroy them, and we should do the same to preserve and increase them.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

PROCLAMATION ABOUT COMMERCIAL INTER-
COURSE, April 2, 1863

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA:

A Proclamation.

WHEREAS, in pursuance of the act of Congress approved July 13, 1861, I did, by proclamation dated August 16, 1861, declare that the inhabitants of the States of Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi, and Florida (except the inhabitants of that part of Virginia lying west of the Alleghany Mountains, and of such other parts of that State and the other States hereinbefore named as might maintain a legal adhesion to the Union and the Constitution, or might be from time to time occupied and controlled by forces of the United States engaged in the dispersion of said insurgents) were in a state of insurrection against the United States, and that all commercial intercourse between the same, and the inhabitants thereof, with the exceptions aforesaid, and the citizens of other

States and other parts of the United States, was unlawful, and would remain unlawful until such insurrection should cease or be suppressed; and that all goods and chattels, wares and merchandise, coming from any of said States, with the exceptions aforesaid, into other parts of the United States, without the license and permission of the President through the Secretary of the Treasury, or proceeding to any of said States, with the exceptions aforesaid, by land or water, together with the vessel or vehicle conveying the same to or from said States, with the exceptions aforesaid, would be forfeited to the United States:

And whereas, experience has shown that the exceptions made in and by said proclamation embarrass the due enforcement of said act of July 13, 1861, and the proper regulation of the commercial intercourse authorized by said act with the loyal citizens of said States:

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do hereby revoke the said exceptions, and declare that the inhabitants of the States of Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Tennessee, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Mississippi, Florida, and Virginia (except the forty-eight counties of Virginia designated as West Virginia, and except also the ports of New Orleans, Key West, Port

Royal, and Beaufort in North Carolina) are in a state of insurrection against the United States, and that all commercial intercourse not licensed and conducted as provided in said act between the said States and the inhabitants thereof, with the exceptions aforesaid, and the citizens of other States and other parts of the United States, is unlawful, and will remain unlawful until such insurrection shall cease or has been suppressed, and notice thereof has been duly given by proclamation; and all cotton, tobacco, and other products, and all other goods and chattels, wares and merchandise, coming from any of said States, with the exceptions aforesaid, into other parts of the United States, or proceeding to any of said States, with the exceptions aforesaid, without the license and permission of the President through the Secretary of the Treasury will, together with the vessel or vehicle conveying the same, be forfeited to the United States.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this second day of April, in the year of our Lord eighteen [L. S.] hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States of America the eighty-seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL HOOKER

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, April 3, 1863.

Major-General Hooker: Our plan is to pass Saturday night on the boat, go over from Acquia Creek to your camp Sunday morning, remain with you till Tuesday morning and then return. Our party will probably not exceed six persons of all sorts.

A. LINCOLN.

INDORSEMENT ON GENERAL J. HOOKER'S PLAN
OF CAMPAIGN AGAINST RICHMOND, April 11,
1863

My opinion is that just now, with the enemy directly ahead of us, there is no eligible route for us into Richmond; and consequently a question of preference between the Rappahannock route and the James River route is a contest about nothing. Hence our prime object is the enemy's army in front of us, and is not with or about Richmond at all, unless it be incidental to the main object.

What then? The two armies are face to face, with a narrow river between them. Our communications are shorter and safer than are those of the enemy. For this reason we can, with equal powers, fret him more than he can us. I do not think that by raids toward Washing-

ton he can derange the Army of the Potomac at all. He has no distant operations which can call any of the Army of the Potomac away; we have such operations which may call him away, at least in part. While he remains intact I do not think we should take the disadvantage of attacking him in his intrenchments; but we should continually harass and menace him, so that he shall have no leisure nor safety in sending away detachments. If he weakens himself, then pitch into him.

TELEGRAM FROM GENERAL HALLECK TO
GENERAL J. POPE

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, April 11, 1863.

Major-General Pope, Milwaukee, Wisconsin:

The President directs that under no circumstances will our troops cross the boundary line into British territory without his authority.

H. W. HALLECK, General-in-Chief.

LETTER TO GENERAL CARL SCHURZ

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, April 11, 1863.

My dear Sir: I cannot comply with your request to take your division away from the Army of the Potomac. General Hooker does not wish it done. I do not myself see a good

reason why it should be done. The division will do itself and its officers more honor and the country more service where it is. Besides these general reasons, as I understand, the Army of the Potomac will move before these proposed changes could be conveniently made. I always wish to oblige you, but I cannot in this case. Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

*ORDER STAYING EXECUTION

EXECUTIVE MANSION, April 11, 1863.

Officer in Command at Nashville, Tenn.:

Is there a soldier by the name of John R. Minnick of Wynkoop's cavalry under sentence of death, by a court-martial or military commission, in Nashville? And if so what was his offense, and when is he to be executed?

A. LINCOLN.

If necessary let the execution be staid till I can be heard from again. A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 12, 1863.

Major-General Hooker: Your letter by the hand of General Butterfield is received, and will be conformed to. The thing you dispense with would have been ready by midday to-morrow.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GOVERNOR ANDREW G. CURTIN

EXECUTIVE MANSION, April 13, 1863.

My dear Sir: If, after the expiration of your present term as governor of Pennsylvania, I shall continue in office here, and you shall desire to go abroad, you can do so with one of the first-class missions.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO ADMIRAL S. F. DU PONT

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, April 13, 1863.

Admiral Du Pont: Hold your position inside the bar near Charleston; or, if you shall have left it, return to it, and hold it till further orders. Do not allow the enemy to erect new batteries or defenses on Morris Island. If he has begun it, drive him out. I do not herein order you to renew the general attack. That is to depend on your own discretion or a further order.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO J. E. BOULIGNY

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 14, 1863.

My dear Sir: I did not certainly know the object of your call yesterday, but I had a strong

impression in regard to it. When our national troubles began, you and I were not personally acquainted, but all I heard of you placed you in my estimation foremost among Louisianians as a friend of the Union. I intended to find you a position, and I did not conceal my inclination to do so. When, last autumn, you bore a letter from me to some parties at New Orleans, you seemed to expect, and consequently I did expect, you would return here as a member of one or the other branch of Congress. But you were not so returned, and this negative evidence, with other of like character, brings me to think that the Union people there for some reason prefer others for the places here. Add to this that the head of the department here in which finding a place for you was contemplated, is not satisfied for the appointment to be made, and it presents, as you see, an embarrassing case for me. My personal feelings for Mr. Bouigny are not less kind than heretofore. Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, D. C.,

April 14, 1863. 5:30 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: Would like to have a letter from you as soon as convenient.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL D. HUNTER AND ADMIRAL
S. F. DU PONTEXECUTIVE MANSION,
WASHINGTON, April 14, 1863.

General Hunter and Admiral Du Pont: This is intended to clear up an apparent inconsistency between the recent order to continue operations before Charleston and the former one to remove to another point in a certain contingency. No censure upon you, or either of you, is intended. We still hope that by cordial and judicious coöperation you can take the batteries on Morris Island and Sullivan's Island and Fort Sumter. But whether you can or not, we wish the demonstration kept up for a time, for a collateral and very important object. We wish the attempt to be a real one, though not a desperate one, if it affords any considerable chance of success. But if prosecuted as a demonstration only, this must not become public, or the whole effect will be lost. Once again before Charleston, do not leave till further orders from here. Of course this is not intended to force you to leave unduly exposed Hilton Head or other near points in your charge.

Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

P. S. Whoever receives this first, please send a copy to the other immediately. A. L.



RENTANCE OF THE FIFTH MASSACHUSETTS COLORED REGIMENT INTO CHARLESTON.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

EXECUTIVE MANSION, April 15, 1863. 10:15 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: It is now 10.15 P. M. An hour ago I received your letter of this morning, and a few moments later your despatch of this evening. The latter gives me considerable uneasiness. The rain and mud of course were to be calculated upon. General S. is not moving rapidly enough to make the expedition come to anything. He has now been out three days, two of which were unusually fair weather, and all three without hindrance from the enemy, and yet he is not twenty-five miles from where he started. To reach his point he still has sixty to go, another river (the Rapidan) to cross, and will be hindered by the enemy. By arithmetic, how many days will it take him to do it? I do not know that any better can be done, but I greatly fear it is another failure already. Write me often. I am very anxious.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

INDORSEMENT ON LETTER OF T. WOODRUFF,
April 16, 1863

In answer to the within question, "Shall we be sustained by you?" I have to answer that at the beginning of the administration I appointed one whom I understood to be an editor of the

“Democrat” to be postmaster at St. Louis—the best office in my gift within Missouri. Soon after this our friends at St. Louis must needs break into factions, the “Democrat” being in my opinion justly chargeable with a full share of the blame for it. I have stoutly tried to keep out of the quarrel, and so mean to do.

As to contracts and jobs, I understand that by the law they are awarded to the best bidders; and if the government agents at St. Louis do differently, it would be good ground to prosecute them upon.

A. LINCOLN.

PROCLAMATION ADMITTING WEST VIRGINIA INTO
THE UNION, April 20, 1863

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA:

A Proclamation.

Whereas, by the act of Congress approved the thirty-first day of December last, the State of West Virginia was declared to be one of the United States of America, and was admitted into the Union on an equal footing with the original States in all respects whatever, upon the condition that certain changes should be duly made in the proposed constitution for that State:

And whereas, proof of a compliance with that condition, as required by the second section of the act aforesaid, has been submitted to me:



Wm. L. Dail

Now, therefore, be it known that I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, do hereby, in pursuance of the act of Congress aforesaid, declare and proclaim that the said act shall take effect and be in force from and after sixty days from the date hereof.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this twentieth day of April, in the year of
[L. S.] our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President: WILLIAM H. SEWARD,
Secretary of State.

LETTER TO C. TRUESDALE

EXECUTIVE MANSION, April 20, 1863.

Calvin Truesdale, Esq., Postmaster, Rock Island, Illinois: Thomas J. Pickett, late agent of the quartermaster's department for the island of Rock Island, has been removed or suspended from that position on a charge of having sold timber and stones from the island for his private benefit. Mr. Pickett is an old acquaintance and friend of mine; and I will thank you if you will set a day or days and place on and at which to

take testimony on the point. Notify Mr. Pickett and one J. B. Danforth, Jr. (who as I understand makes the charges), to be present with their witnesses, take the testimony in writing offered by both parties and report it in full to me. Please do this for me.

Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARIES SEWARD AND WELLES.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., April 21, 1863.

Gentlemen: It is now a practical question for this government whether a government mail of a neutral power, found on board a vessel captured by a belligerent power, on charge of breach of blockade, shall be forwarded to its designated destination without opening, or shall be placed in custody of the prize court, to be, in the discretion of the court, opened and searched for evidence to be used on the trial of the prize cases. I will thank each of you to furnish me:

First. A list of all cases wherein such question has been passed upon either by a diplomatic or a judicial decision.

Secondly. All cases wherein mails under such circumstances have been without special decision either forwarded unopened, or detained and opened in search of evidence.

I wish these lists to embrace as well the re-



WEST VIRGINIA.

ported cases in the books generally, as the cases pertaining to the present war in the United States.

Thirdly. A statement and brief argument of what would be the dangers and evils of forwarding such mails unopened.

Fourthly. A statement and brief argument of what would be the dangers and evils of detaining and opening such mails, and using the contents, if pertinent, as evidence.

And, lastly, any general remarks that may occur to you or either of you.

Your obedient servant,

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO JOSEPH SEGAR.

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, April 23, 1863.

My dear Sir: My recollection is that Accomac and Northampton counties (eastern shore of Virginia) were not exempted from a proclamation issued some short while after the adjournment of Congress; that some time after the issuing of the preliminary Emancipation Proclamation in September, and before the issuing of the final one on January 1, 1863, you called on me and requested that the "eastern shore of Virginia" might be exempted from both the summer proclamation and the final Emancipation

Proclamation. I told you that the non-exemption of it from the former was a mere omission which would be corrected; and that it should also be exempted from the final Emancipation Proclamation. The preliminary Emancipation Proclamation does not define what is included or excluded; but only gives notice that this will be done in the final one.

Both yourself and General Dix at different times (General Dix in writing) called my attention to the fact that I had omitted to exempt the "eastern shore of Virginia" from the first proclamation; and this was all that was needed to have me correct it. Without being reminded by either him or yourself, I do not think I should have omitted to exempt it from the final Emancipation Proclamation; but at all events you did not allow me to forget it. Supposing it was your duty to your constituents to attend to these matters, I think you acted with entire good faith and fidelity to them.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL W. S. ROSECRANS

EXECUTIVE MANSION, WASHINGTON, D. C.,

April 23, 1863. 10:10 A. M.

*Major-General Rosecrans, Murfreesborough,
Tennessee:* Your despatch of the 21st received.

I really cannot say that I have heard any complaint of you. I have heard complaint of a police corps at Nashville, but your name was not mentioned in connection with it, so far as I remember. It may be that by inference you are connected with it, but my attention has never been drawn to it in that light.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY WATSON

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, April 27, 1863.

My dear Sir: I have attentively considered the matter of the "Republican," in regard to which you called on me the other day; and the result is that I prefer to make no change unless it shall again give just cause of offense, in which case I will at once withdraw the patronage it is enjoying at my hands. I believe it will not offend again; and if not, it is better to let the past go by quietly.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

April 27, 1863. 3:30 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: How does it look now?

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL LANE

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, April 27, 1863.

Hon. James H. Lane, Leavenworth, Kansas:

The Governor of Kansas is here asking that Lieutenant-Colonel J. M. Williams, of a colored regiment there, shall be removed; and also complaining of the military interference of General Blunt in the late election at Leavenworth. I do not know how, if at all, you are connected with these things; but I wish your assistance to so shape things that the Governor of Kansas may be treated with the consideration that is extended to governors of other States. We are not forcing a regimental officer upon any other governor against his protest. Cannot this matter be somehow adjusted?

A. LINCOLN.

[*Indorsement.*]

Not sent because Governor Carney thought it best not be.

INDORSEMENT ON LETTER OF F. L. CAPEN,
April 28, 1863

It seems to me Mr. Capen knows nothing about the weather in advance. He told me three days ago that it would not rain again till

the 30th of April or 1st of May. It is raining now, and has been for ten hours. I cannot spare any more time to Mr. Capen.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR CURTIN

WAR DEPARTMENT, April 28, 1863.

Hon. A. G. Curtin, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania: I do not think the people of Pennsylvania should be uneasy about an invasion. Doubtless a small force of the enemy is flourishing about in the northern part of Virginia, on the "skewhorn" principle, on purpose to divert us in another quarter. I believe it is nothing more. We think we have adequate force close after them.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER FROM SECRETARY STANTON TO GENERAL BURNSIDE

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON CITY, April 29, 1863.

Major-General Ambrose E. Burnside, Commanding Department of the Ohio, Cincinnati: A telegram from Louisville, published in the "National Intelligencer" of this morning, contains the following paragraph:

During the sale of a lot of negroes at the courthouse this morning, the provost-marshal notified the owners that four were free under the President's

proclamation. They nevertheless went on, when the matter of the four contrabands was turned over to the district judge, who will take measures to annul the sale.

The President directs me to say to you that he is much surprised to find that persons who are free under his proclamation have been suffered to be sold under any pretense whatever; and also desires me to remind you of the terms of the acts of Congress by which the fugitive negroes of rebel owners taking refuge within our lines are declared to be "captives of war." He desires you to take immediate measures to prevent any persons who, by act of Congress, are entitled to protection from the government as "captives of war" from being returned to bondage or suffering any wrong prohibited by that act. A detailed despatch, with instructions, will be sent to you to-day. Your vigilant and earnest attention to this subject within your department is specially requested.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

*TELEGRAM TO W. A. NEWELL

EXECUTIVE MANSION, April 29, 1863.

Hon. W. A. Newell, Allentown, N. J.: I have some trouble about provost-marshal in your first district. Please procure Hon. Mr. Starr to come with you and see me, or come to

an agreement with him and telegraph me the result.

A. LINCOLN.

INDORSEMENT IN THE CASE OF CAPTAIN
SCHAADT

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, April 30, 1863.

Such facts are brought to my notice as induce me to withhold my approval of the dismissal of Captain Schaadt, named within. He is satisfactorily proved to me to be of good character for candor and manliness, and generally; and that he was most active and efficient in Pennsylvania last autumn in raising troops for the Union. All this should not retain him in the service if, since then, he has given himself in any way to the injury of the service. How this is I must understand better than I now do before I can approve his dismissal. What has he done? What has he said? If, as is claimed for him, he is guilty of nothing but the withholding his vote or sanction from a certain resolution or resolutions, I think his dismissal is wrong, even though I might think the resolution itself right and very proper to be adopted by such as choose.

Captain Schaadt will report himself to General Hunter and deliver him this paper for his further action.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL D. HUNTER
(*Private.*)

EXECUTIVE MANSION, April 30, 1863.

My dear Sir: This morning I was presented an order of yours, dismissing from the service, subject to my approval, a Captain Schaadt, of one of the Pennsylvania regiments. Disloyalty, without any statement of the evidence supposed to have proved it, is assigned as the cause of the dismissal; and he represents at home—as I am told—that the sole evidence was his refusal to sanction a resolution (indorsing the Emancipation Proclamation, I believe); and our friends assure me that this statement is doing the Union cause great harm in his neighborhood and county, especially as he is a man of character, did good service in raising troops for us last fall, and still declares for the Union and his wish to fight for it.

On this state of the case I wrote a special indorsement on the order, which I suppose he will present to you; and I write this merely to assure you that no censure is intended upon you; but that it is hoped that you will inquire into the case more minutely, and that if there be no evidence but his refusal to sanction the resolution, you will restore him.

Yours as ever, A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAMS TO GOVERNOR CURTIN

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 1, 1863.

Governor Curtin, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania:

The whole disposable force at Baltimore and elsewhere in reach have already been sent after the enemy which alarms you. The worst thing the enemy could do for himself would be to weaken himself before Hooker, and therefore it is safe to believe he is not doing it; and the best thing he could do for himself would be to get us so scared as to bring part of Hooker's force away, and that is just what he is trying to do.

I will telegraph you in the morning about calling out the militia.

A. LINCOLN.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 2, 1863.

Gov. Curtin, Harrisburg, Penn.: General Halleck tells me he has a despatch from General Schenck this morning informing him that our forces have joined, and that the enemy menacing Pennsylvania will have to fight or run to-day. I hope I am not less anxious to do my duty to Pennsylvania than yourself, but I really do not yet see the justification for incurring the trouble and expense of calling out the militia. I shall keep watch, and try to do my duty.

A. LINCOLN.

P. S. Our forces are exactly between the enemy and Pennsylvania.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL D. BUTTERFIELD

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3, 1863.

Major-General Butterfield: The President thanks you for your telegrams, and hopes you will keep him advised as rapidly as any information reaches you.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL D. BUTTERFIELD

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 3, 1863. 4.35 P. M.

Major-General Butterfield: Where is General Hooker? Where is Sedgwick? Where is Stoneman?

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 4, 1863. 3.10 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: We have news here that the enemy has reoccupied heights above Fredericksburg. Is that so?

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL A. E. BURNSIDE

WASHINGTON, May 4, 1863.

Major-General Burnside, Cincinnati, O.: Our friend General Sigel claims that you owe him a letter. If you so remember please write him at once. He is here.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER¹

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

May 6, 1863. 12.25 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: We have through General Dix the contents of Richmond papers of the 5th. General Dix's despatch in full is going to you by Captain Fox of the navy. The substance is General Lee's despatch of the 3d (Sunday), claiming that he had beaten you, and that you were then retreating across the Rappahannock, distinctly stating that two of Longstreet's divisions fought you on Saturday, and that General [E. F.] Paxton was killed, Stonewall Jackson severely wounded, and Generals Heth and A. P. Hill slightly wounded. The Richmond papers also stated, upon what authority not mentioned, that our cavalry have been at Ashland, Hanover Court House, and other points, destroying several locomotives and a good deal of other property, and all the railroad bridges to within five miles of Richmond.

A. LINCOLN.

¹When Lincoln read the telegram to the War Department from General Butterfield, Hooker's chief of staff, reporting the withdrawal of the army from the south side of the Rappahannock, he was for a moment in despair. This he quickly overcame. Ordering a steamer to be ready, he summoned General Halleck and in little over an hour was on his way to Hooker's headquarters. The next day he had the situation in hand, and was planning an advance upon Richmond.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 6, 1863. 12.30 P. M.

General Hooker: Just as I had telegraphed you contents of Richmond papers showing that our cavalry has not failed, I received General Butterfield's of 11 A. M. yesterday. This, with the great rain of yesterday and last night securing your right flank, I think puts a new face upon your case; but you must be the judge.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO COLONEL R. INGALLS

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 6, 1863. 1.45 P. M.

Colonel Ingalls: News has gone to General Hooker which may change his plans. Act in view of such contingency.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

HEADQUARTERS ARMY OF THE POTOMAC,
May 7, 1863.

My dear Sir: The recent movement of your army is ended without effecting its object, except, perhaps, some important breakings of the enemy's communications. What next? If possible, I would be very glad of another movement early enough to give us some benefit from the fact of the enemy's communication being

broken; but neither for this reason nor any other do I wish anything done in desperation or rashness. An early movement would also help to supersede the bad moral effect of the recent one, which is said to be considerably injurious. Have you already in your mind a plan wholly or partially formed? If you have, prosecute it without interference from me. If you have not, please inform me, so that I, incompetent as I may be, can try and assist in the formation of some plan for the army.

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

PROCLAMATION CONCERNING ALIENS

MAY 8, 1863

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA*A PROCLAMATION.*

WHEREAS, the Congress of the United States, at its last session, enacted a law entitled "An act for enrolling and calling out the national forces and for other purposes," which was approved on the third day of March last; and

Whereas, it is recited in the said act that there now exists in the United States an insurrection and rebellion against the authority thereof, and it is, under the Constitution of the United States, the duty of the government to suppress insurrection and rebellion, to guarantee to each State a republican form of government, and to preserve the public tranquillity; and

¹ The purport of this proclamation was to sustain and make effective the draft bill which, after bitter opposition in both houses, had been finally passed the previous February, and to define the position of aliens who had already declared their intention of becoming citizens. It was shortly after this that the draft riots broke out in New York City, largely due to its foreign-born population.

Whereas, for these high purposes a military force is indispensable, to raise and support which all persons ought willingly to contribute; and

Whereas, no service can be more praiseworthy and honorable than that which is rendered for the maintenance of the Constitution and Union, and the consequent preservation of free government; and

Whereas, for the reasons thus recited, it was enacted by the said statute that all able-bodied male citizens of the United States, and persons of foreign birth who shall have declared on oath their intention to become citizens under and in pursuance of the laws thereof, between the ages of twenty and forty-five years (with certain exceptions not necessary to be here mentioned), are declared to constitute the national forces, and shall be liable to perform military duty in the service of the United States when called out by the President for that purpose; and

Whereas, it is claimed by and in behalf of persons of foreign birth within the ages specified in said act, who have heretofore declared on oath their intentions to become citizens under and in pursuance of the laws of the United States, and who have not exercised the right of suffrage or any other political franchise under the laws of the United States, or of any of the

States thereof, that they are not absolutely concluded by their aforesaid declaration of intention from renouncing their purpose to become citizens, and that, on the contrary, such persons under treaties or the law of nations retain a right to renounce that purpose and to forego the privileges of citizenship and residence within the United States under the obligations imposed by the aforesaid act of Congress:

Now, therefore, to avoid all misapprehensions concerning the liability of persons concerned to perform the service required by such enactment, and to give it full effect, I do hereby order and proclaim that no plea of alienage will be received or allowed to exempt from the obligations imposed by the aforesaid act of Congress, any person of foreign birth who shall have declared on oath his intention to become a citizen of the United States under the laws thereof, and who shall be found within the United States at any time during the continuance of the present insurrection and rebellion, at or after the expiration of the period of sixty-five days from the date of this proclamation; nor shall any such plea of alienage be allowed in favor of any such person who has so, as aforesaid, declared his intention to become a citizen of the United States, and shall have exercised at any time the right of suffrage, or any other political franchise,

within the United States, under the laws thereof, or under the laws of any of the several States.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this eight day of May, in the year of our [L. S.] Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-three, and of the independence of the United States the eighty-seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, D. C., May 8, 1863. 4 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: The news is here of the capture by our forces of Grand Gulf—a large and very important thing. General Willich, an exchanged prisoner just from Richmond, has talked with me this morning. He was there when our cavalry cut the roads in that vicinity. He says there was not a sound pair of legs in Richmond, and that our men, had they known it, could have safely gone in and burned everything and brought in Jeff Davis. We captured and paroled 300 or 400 men. He says as he came to City Point there was an army three miles long (Longstreet's, he thought) mov-

ing toward Richmond. Milroy has captured a despatch of General Lee, in which he says his loss was fearful in his last battle with you.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY CHASE

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 8, 1863.

My dear Sir: I address this to you personally rather than officially, because of the nature of the case. My mind is made up to remove Victor Smith as collector of the customs at the Puget Sound district. Yet in doing this I do not decide that the charges against him are true. I only decide that the degree of dissatisfaction with him there is too great for him to be retained. But I believe he is your personal acquaintance and friend, and if you desire it I will try to find some other place for him.

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. A. DIX

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 9, 1863.

Major-General Dix: It is very important for Hooker to know exactly what damage is done to the railroads at all points between Fredericksburg and Richmond. As yet we have no word as to whether the crossings of the North and South Anna, or any of them, have been touched. There are four of these crossings; that



J. T. Spatnick
Bt. Major Genl. Vol.

is, one on each road on each stream. You readily perceive why this information is desired. I suppose Kilpatrick or Davis can tell. Please ascertain fully what was done, and what is the present condition, as near as you can, and advise
A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY STANTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 11, 1863.

Dear Sir: I have again concluded to relieve General Curtis. I see no other way to avoid the worst consequences there. I think of General Schofield as his successor, but I do not wish to take the matter of a successor out of the hands of yourself and General Halleck.

Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. A. DIX

WASHINGTON CITY, May 11, 1863.

Major-General Dix: Do the Richmond papers have anything about Grand Gulf or Vicksburg?
A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL D. BUTTERFIELD

WASHINGTON CITY, May 11, 1863.

Major-General Butterfield: About what distance is it from the observatory we stopped at last Thursday, to the line of enemies works you ranged the glass upon for me? A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR HORATIO SEYMOUR

WASHINGTON, May 12, 1863.

Governor Seymour, Albany, N. Y.: Dr. Swinburne and Mr. Gillett are here, having been refused, as they say, by the War Department, permission to go to the Army of the Potomac. They now appeal to me, saying you wish them to go. I suppose they have been excluded by a rule which experience has induced the department to deem proper, still they shall have leave to go, if you say you desire it. Please answer.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO DR. A. G. HENRY

WASHINGTON, May 13, 1863.

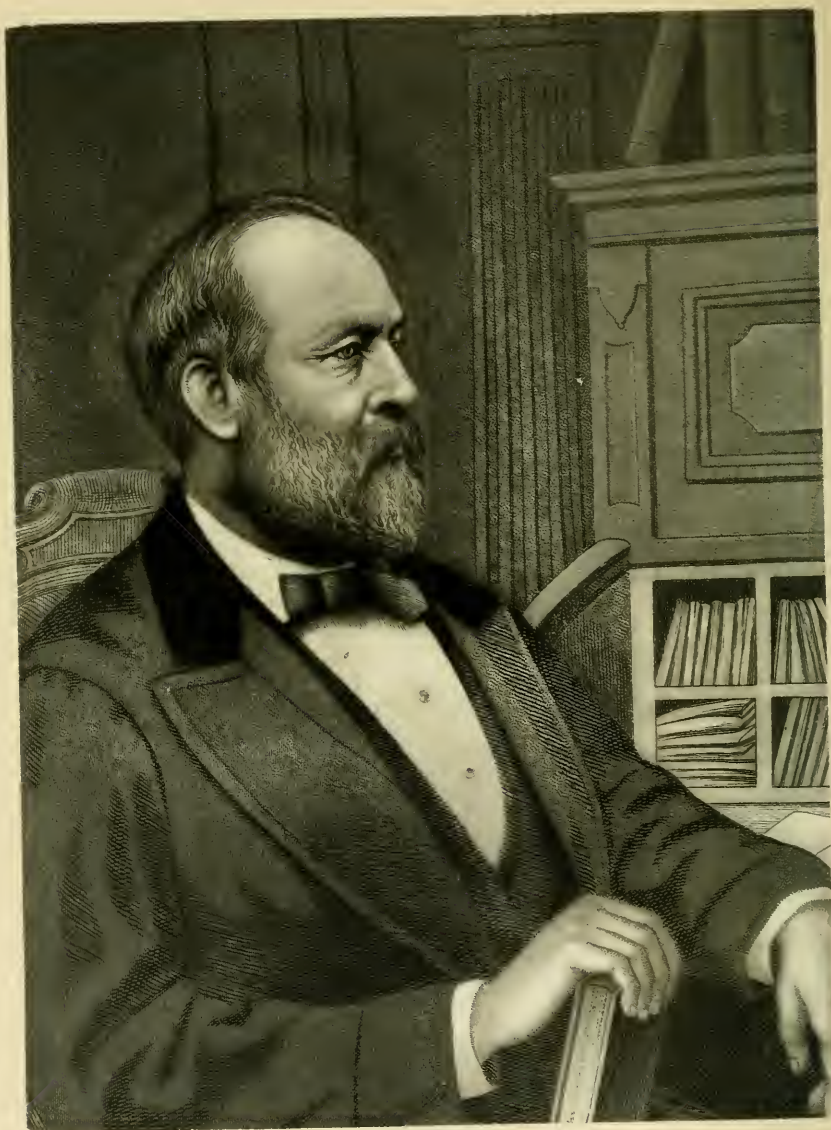
Dr. A. G. Henry, Metropolitan Hotel, New York: Governor Chase's feelings were hurt by my action in his absence. Smith is removed, but Governor Chase wishes to name his successor, and asks a day or two to make the designation.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY CHASE

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 13, 1863.

My dear Sir: I return the letters of General Garfield and Mr. Flanders. I am sorry to know the general's pet expedition, under Colonel



Streight, has already been captured. Whether it had paid for itself, as he hoped, I do not know. If you think it proper to fill the agency mentioned by Mr. Flanders, by all means let Mr. Flanders be the man.

Please send me over the commission for Lewis C. Gunn, as you recommended, for collector of customs at Puget Sound.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, D. C.,

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 13, 1863. 1 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: If it will not interfere with the service, nor personally incommode you, please come up and see me this evening.

A. LINCOLN.

MEMORANDUM ABOUT LIEUTENANT MERRYMAN, MAY 13, 1863

I understand there are, or have been, some charges against Lieutenant Merryman, of which I know nothing. I only wish to say, he was raised from childhood in the town where I lived, and I remember nothing against him as boy or man.

His father, now dead, was a very intimate acquaintance and friend of mine.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY STANTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 13, 1863.

My dear Sir: Since parting with you I have seen the Secretaries of State and the Treasury, and they both think we better not issue the special suspension of the writ of *habeas corpus* spoken of. Governor Chase thinks the case is not before Judge Swaim; that it is before Judge Leavitt; that the writ will probably not issue whichever the applications may be before; and that in no event will Swaim commit an imprudence. His chief reason for thinking the writ will not issue is that he has seen in a newspaper that Judge Leavitt stated that Judge Swaim and he refused a similar application last year.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 14, 1863.

My dear Sir: When I wrote on the 7th, I had an impression that possibly by an early movement you could get some advantage from the supposed facts that the enemy's communications were disturbed, and that he was somewhat deranged in position. That idea has now passed away, the enemy having reestablished his communications, regained his positions, and actually

received reinforcements. It does not now appear probable to me that you can gain anything by an early renewal of the attempt to cross the Rappahannock. I therefore shall not complain if you do no more for a time than to keep the enemy at bay and out of other mischief by menaces and occasional cavalry raids, if practicable, and to put your own army in good condition again. Still, if in your own clear judgment you can renew the attack successfully, I do not mean to restrain you. Bearing upon this last point, I must tell you that I have some painful intimations that some of your corps and division commanders are not giving you their entire confidence. This would be ruinous, if true, and you should therefore, first of all, ascertain the real facts beyond all possibility of doubt.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO W. C. BRYANT

WASHINGTON, May 14, 1863.

My dear Sir: Yours, requesting that General Sigel may be again assigned to command, is received. Allow me to briefly explain. I kept General Sigel in command for several months, he requesting to resign or to be relieved. At length, at his urgent and repeated solicitation, he was relieved. Now it is inconvenient to as-

sign him a command without relieving or depriving some other officer who is not asking and perhaps would object to being so disposed of.

This is one of a class of cases, and you perceive how embarrassing they are.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO H. T. BLOW, C. D. DRAKE,
AND OTHERS

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 15, 1863.

Hon. H. T. Blow and Others, St. Louis, Mo.: Your despatch of to-day is just received. It is very painful to me that you in Missouri cannot or will not settle your factional quarrel among yourselves. I have been tormented with it beyond endurance for months by both sides. Neither side pays the least respect to my appeals to your reason. I am now compelled to take hold of the case.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO JAMES GUTHRIE

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 16, 1863.

Hon. James Guthrie, Louisville, Ky.: Your despatch of to-day is received. I personally know nothing of Colonel Churchill, but months ago and more than once he has been represented to me as exerting a mischievous influence at Saint Louis, for which reason I am unwilling

to force his continuance there against the judgment of our friends on the ground, but if it will oblige you, he may come to, and remain at Louisville upon taking the oath of allegiance, and your pledge for his good behavior.

A. LINCOLN.

*LETTER TO SECRETARY STANTON

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 16, 1863.

My dear Sir: The commander of the Department at St. Louis has ordered several persons south of our military lines, which order is not disapproved by me. Yet at the special request of Hon. James Guthrie I have consented to one of the number, Samuel Churchill, remaining at Louisville, Ky., upon condition of his taking the oath of allegiance and Mr. Guthrie's word of honor for his good behavior.

Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM FROM SECRETARY STANTON TO
GENERAL F. J. HERRON

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 17, 1863.

Major-General F. J. Herron, Rolla, Mo.: Your despatch threatening to resign rather than to serve under General Schofield has been received and shown to the President. He directs me to say that he is unaware of any valid objection to General Schofield, he having recently

commanded the Department of the Missouri, giving almost universal satisfaction so far as the President ever heard. He directs me to add that he has appreciated the services of General Herron and rewarded them by rapid promotions; but that, even in him, insubordination will be met as insubordination, and that your resignation will be acted upon as circumstances may require whenever it is tendered.

EDWIN M. STANTON, Secretary of War.

ORDERS SENDING C. L. VALLANDIGHAM BEYOND
MILITARY LINES ¹

UNITED STATES MILITARY TELEGRAPH,
May 19, 1863.

TO MAJOR-GENERAL BURNSIDE, Commanding
Department of Ohio.

Sir: The President directs that without delay you send C. L. Vallandigham under secure guard to the headquarters of General Rosecrans, to be put by him beyond our military lines; and in case of his return within our lines, he be ar-

¹ Vallandigham, an Ohio Democrat of the Copperhead order, opposed the war from the beginning, though declaring himself for the Union. In 1863 his treasonable public attacks on the administration led General Burnside to place him under arrest. This aroused widespread criticism and controversy as an act of despotism. Lincoln, however, backed up Burnside and suggested the measures to be taken with the prisoner. The case was taken up by the supporters of Vallandigham. They endeavored to make it a party issue, but the plan failed.

rested and kept in close custody for the term specified in his sentence.

By order of the President:

E. R. S. CANBY, Brigadier-General.

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 20, 1863.

Major-General A. E. Burnside: Your despatch of three o'clock this afternoon to the Secretary of War has been received and shown to the President. He thinks the best disposition to be made of Vallandigham is to put him beyond the lines, as directed in the order transmitted to you last evening, and directs that you execute that order by sending him forward under secure guard without delay to General Rosecrans.

By order of the President:

ED. R. S. CANBY, Brigadier-General.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL W. S. ROSECRANS

WASHINGTON, May 20, 1863.

Major-General Rosecrans: Yours of yesterday in relation to Colonel Haggard is received. I am anxious that you shall not misunderstand me. In no case have I intended to censure you or to question your ability. In Colonel Haggard's case I meant no more than to suggest that possibly you might have been mistaken in a point that could [be] corrected. I frequently make mistakes myself in the many things I am compelled to do hastily.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM FROM SECRETARY STANTON TO
GENERAL W. S. ROSECRANS

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 20, 1863.

Major-General Rosecrans, Murfreesboro:

The President desires to know whether you have any late news from Grant, or any of the operations on the Mississippi. If you have, please report.

EDWIN M. STANTON:

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL W. S. ROSECRANS

WASHINGTON, May 21, 1863. 4.40 P. M.

Major-General Rosecrans: For certain reasons it is thought best for Rev. Dr. Jaquess not to come here.

Present my respects to him, and ask him to write me fully on the subject he has in contemplation.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL A. E. BURNSIDE

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 21, 1863.

Major-General Burnside, Cincinnati, O.: In the case of Thomas M. Campbell, convicted as a spy, let execution of the sentence be respited until further order from me, he remaining in custody meanwhile.

A. LINCOLN.

Major-General Burnside: Please acknowledge receipt of the above telegram and time of delivery.

THO. T. ECKERT.



BIRTH-PLACE OF GENERAL, U. S. GRANT.
POINT DE LA PIERRE, ILL.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL S. A. HURLBUT

WASHINGTON, May 22, 1863.

Major-General Hurlbut, Memphis, Tenn.:

We have news here in the Richmond newspapers of 20th and 21st, including a despatch from General Joe Johnston himself, that on the 15th or 16th—a little confusion as to the day—Grant beat Pemberton and [W. W.] Loring near Edwards Station, at the end of a nine hours' fight, driving Pemberton over the Big Black and cutting Loring off and driving him south to Crystal Springs, twenty-five miles below Jackson. Joe Johnson telegraphed all this, except about Loring, from his camp between Brownsville and Lexington, on the 18th. Another despatch indicates that Grant was moving against Johnston on the 18th.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO ANSON STAGER

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 24, 1863.—10.40 P. M.

Anson Stager, Cleveland, Ohio: Late last night Fuller telegraphed you, as you say, that "the stars and stripes float over Vicksburg and the victory is complete." Did he know what he said, or did he say it without knowing it? Your despatch of this afternoon throws doubt upon it.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO COLONEL HAGGARD

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 25, 1863.

Colonel Haggard, Nashville, Tenn.: Your despatch to Green Adams had just been shown to me. General Rosecrans knows better than we can know here, who should be in charge of the Fifth Cavalry.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL W. S. ROSECRANS

WAR DEPARTMENT, May 27, 1863.

Major-General Rosecrans, Murfreesborough, Tenn.: Have you anything from Grant? Where is Forrest's headquarters?

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL JOHN M. SCHOFIELD

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 27, 1863.

My dear Sir: Having relieved General Curtis and assigned you to the command of the Department of the Missouri, I think it may be of some advantage for me to state to you why I did it. I did not relieve General Curtis because of any full conviction that he had done wrong by commission or omission. I did it because of a conviction in my mind that the Union men of Missouri, constituting, when united, a vast majority of the whole people, have entered into a pestilent factional quarrel among themselves—

General Curtis, perhaps not of choice, being the head of one faction and Governor Gamble that of the other. After months of labor to reconcile the difficulty, it seemed to grow worse and worse, until I felt it my duty to break it up somehow; and as I could not remove Governor Gamble, I had to remove General Curtis. Now that you are in the position, I wish you to undo nothing merely because General Curtis or Governor Gamble did it, but to exercise your own judgment, and do right for the public interest. Let your military measures be strong enough to repel the invader and keep the peace, and not so strong as to unnecessarily harass and persecute the people. It is a difficult rôle, and so much greater will be the honor if you perform it well. If both factions, or neither, shall abuse you, you will probably be about right. Beware of being assailed by one and praised by the other.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY CHASE

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 27, 1863.

My dear Sir: The office of second comptroller is vacant by the death of Mr. Cutts. Of course I wish your concurrence whenever I shall fill it. I believe the only applicants—whose papers are now before me—are Augustin Chester, late of Connecticut, now of Chicago, and John

M. Broadhead, of this city. I herewith inclose their papers to you. I believe they are both competent and worthy gentlemen.

Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, May 27, 1863. 11 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: Have you Richmond papers of this morning? If so, what news?
A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO ERASTUS CORNING

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 28, 1863.

Hon. Erastus Corning, Albany, N. Y.: The letter of yourself and others dated the 19th and inclosing the resolutions of a public meeting held at Albany on the 16th was received night before last. I shall give the resolutions the consideration you ask, and shall try to find time and make a respectful response.

Your obedient servant, A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL W. S. ROSECRANS

WASHINGTON, May 28, 1863.

Major-General Rosecrans, Murfreesborough, Tenn.: I would not push you to any rashness, but I am very anxious that you do your utmost, short of rashness, to keep Bragg from getting off to help Johnston against Grant. A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL W. S. ROSECRANS

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 28, 1863.

My dear Sir: I have but a slight personal acquaintance with Colonel Jaquess, though I know him very well by character.

Such a mission as he proposes I think promises good, if it were free from difficulties, which I fear it cannot be.

First. He cannot go with any government authority whatever. This is absolute and imperative.

Secondly. If he goes without authority, he takes a great deal of personal risk—he may be condemned and executed as a spy.

If, for any reason, you think fit to give Colonel Jaquess a furlough, and any authority from me for that object is necessary, you hereby have it for any length of time you see fit.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR JOHNSON

WASHINGTON, May 29, 1863.

Governor Andrew Johnson, Louisville, Ky.: General Burnside has been frequently informed lately that the division under General Getty cannot be spared. I am sorry to have to tell you this, but it is true, and cannot be helped.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO J. K. DUBOIS AND OTHERS¹

EXECUTIVE MANSION, May 29, 1863.

Gentlemen: Agree among yourselves upon any two of your own number—one of whom to be quartermaster and the other to be commissary—to serve at Springfield, Illinois, and send me their names, and I will appoint them.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL A. E. BURNSIDE

WASHINGTON, May 29, 1863.

Major-General Burnside, Cincinnati, O.:
Your despatch of to-day received. When I shall wish to supersede you I will let you know. All the cabinet regretted the necessity of arresting, for instance, Vollandigham, some perhaps doubting there was a real necessity for it; but, being done, all were for seeing you through with it.

A. LINCOLN.

¹ Besides Dubois, the above letter was addressed to O. M. Hatch, John Williams, Jacob Bunn, John Bunn, George R. Weber, William Yates, S. M. Cullom, Charles W. Matheny, William F. Elkin, Francis Springer, B. A. Watson, Eliphalet Hawley and James Campbell.

General William T. Sherman
Wood Engraving from a Photograph by
George M. Bell



REPLY TO MEMBERS OF THE PRESBYTERIAN
GENERAL ASSEMBLY, May [30?], 1863

IT has been my happiness to receive testimonies of a similar nature from, I believe, all denominations of Christians. They are all loyal, but perhaps not in the same degree or in the same numbers; but I think they all claim to be loyal. This to me is most gratifying, because from the beginning I saw that the issue of our great struggle depended on the divine interposition and favor. If we had that, all would be well. The proportions of this rebellion were not for a long time understood. I saw that it involved the greatest difficulties, and would call forth all the powers of the whole country. The end is not yet.

The point made in your paper is well taken as to "the government" and "the administration" in whose hands are these interests. I fully appreciate its correctness and justice. In my administration I may have committed some errors. It would be indeed remarkable if I had not. I have acted according to my best judgment in every case. The views expressed by the committee accord with my own; and on this principle

"the government" is to be supported though "the administration" may not in every case wisely act. As a pilot I have used my best exertions to keep afloat our Ship of State, and shall be glad to resign my trust at the appointed time to another pilot more skilful and successful than I may prove. In every case and at all hazards the government must be perpetuated. Relying, as I do, upon the Almighty Power, and encouraged as I am by these resolutions which you have just read, with the support which I receive from Christian men, I shall not hesitate to use all the means at my control to secure the termination of this rebellion, and will hope for success.

I sincerely thank you for this interview, this pleasant mode of presentation, and the General Assembly for their patriotic support in these resolutions.

LETTER TO CHARLES SUMNER ¹

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 1, 1863.

My dear Sir: In relation to the matter spoke of Saturday morning and this morning—to wit, the raising of colored troops in the North, with the understanding that they shall be commanded by General Frémont—I have to say:

¹ In December, 1863, less than one year after the President proclaimed his policy of enlisting negroes as soldiers, there were in the army, about 50,000 former slaves. During the last days of the war there were 186,017 colored men in the military service.

That while it is very objectionable, as a general rule, to have troops raised on any special terms, such as to serve only under a particular command or only at a particular place or places, yet I would forego the objection in this case upon a fair prospect that a large force of this sort could thereby be the more rapidly raised.

That being raised, say to the number of ten thousand, I would very cheerfully send them to the field under General Frémont, assigning him a department, made or to be made, with such white force also as I might be able to put in.

That with the best wishes toward General Frémont, I cannot now give him a department, because I have not spare troops to furnish a new department, and I have not, as I think, justifiable ground to relieve the present commander of any old one. In the raising of the colored troops, the same consent of governors would have to be obtained as in case of white troops, and the government would make the same provision for them during organization as for white troops.

It would not be a point with me whether General Frémont should take charge of the organization, or take charge of the force only after the organization. If you think fit to communicate this to General Frémont, you are at liberty to do so.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO COLONEL LUDLOW

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 1, 1863.

Richardson and Brown, correspondents of the "Tribune" captured at Vicksburg, are detained at Richmond. Please ascertain why they are detained, and get them off if you can.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL U. S. GRANT

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 2, 1863.

Major-General Grant, Vicksburg: Are you in communication with General Banks? Is he coming toward you or going farther off? Is there or has there been anything to hinder his coming directly to you by water from Alexandria?

A. LINCOLN.

NOTE TO SECRETARY STANTON

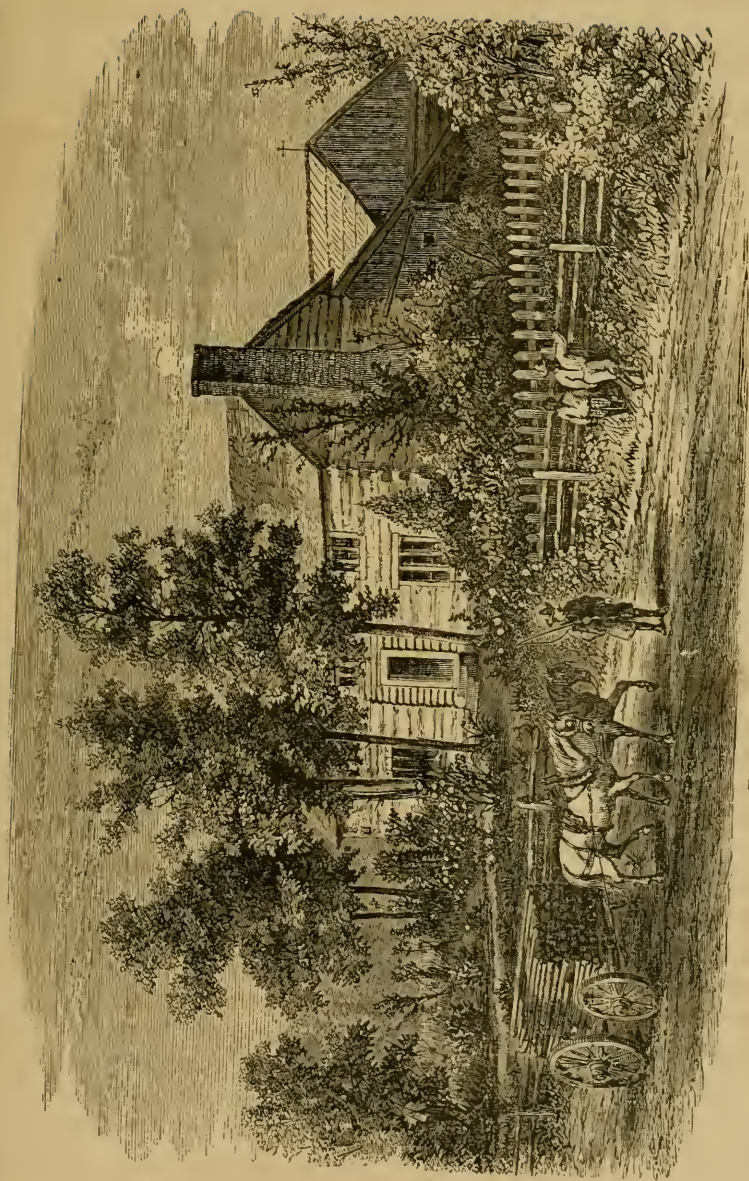
EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 4, 1863.

My dear Sir: I have received additional despatches, which, with former ones, induce me to believe we should revoke or suspend the order suspending the Chicago "Times;" and if you concur in opinion, please have it done.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.



HARDSCRABBLE, BUILT BY CAPT. GRANT.



* TELEGRAM TO GENERAL D. BUTTERFIELD

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 4, 1863.

Major-General Butterfield: The news you send me from the Richmond "Sentinel" of the 3d must be greatly if not wholly incorrect. The Thursday mentioned was the 28th, and we have dispatches here directly from Vicksburg of the 28th, 29th, 30th and 31st, and while they speak of the siege progressing, they speak of no assault or general fighting whatever, and in fact they so speak as to almost exclude the idea that there can have been any since Monday the 25th which was not very heavy. Neither do they mention any demand made by Grant upon Pemberton for a surrender. They speak of our troops as being in good health, condition and spirits. Some of them do say that Banks has Port Hudson invested.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, June 5, 1863. 4 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: Yours of to-day was received an hour ago. So much of professional military skill is requisite to answer it, that I have turned the task over to General Halleck. He promises to perform it with his utmost care. I have but one idea which I think worth suggesting to you, and that is, in case you find Lee com-

ing to the north of the Rappahannock, I would by no means cross to the south of it. If he should leave a rear force at Fredericksburg, tempting you to fall upon it, it would fight in intrenchments and have you at disadvantage, and so, man for man, worst you at that point, while his main force would in some way be getting an advantage of you northward. In one word, I would not take any risk of being entangled upon the river, like an ox jumped half over a fence and liable to be torn by dogs front and rear without a fair chance to gore one way or kick the other. If Lee would come to my side of the river, I would keep on the same side, and fight him or act on the defense, according as might be my estimate of his strength relatively to my own. But these are mere suggestions which I desire to be controlled by the judgment of yourself and General Halleck.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 5, 1863.

Major-General Hooker: Would you like to have Captain Treadwell Moore, now in California to report to you for duty? A. LINCOLN.

ANONYMOUS NOTE TO THE WASHINGTON
"CHRONICLE," June 6, 1863

Editor of the "Chronicle:." In your issue of

this morning you have an article on the Chicago "Times." Being an Illinoisian, I happen to know that much of the article is incorrect. As I remember, upon the repeal of the Missouri Compromise, the Democratic newspapers at Chicago went over to the opposition. Thereupon the "Times" was established by the friends of the administration, Senator Douglas being the most prominent in establishing it. A man by the name of James Sheahan, from this city, was its first and only editor nearly if not quite all the remainder of the senator's life. On the political separation between Mr. Buchanan and Senator Douglas, the "Times" adhered to the senator, and was the ablest paper in his support through his senatorial contest with Mr. Lincoln. Since the last presidential election certainly, perhaps since Senator Douglas's death, Mr. Sheahan left the "Times"; the "Times" since then has been identical with the "Times" before then in little more than the name. The writer hereof is not well enough posted to say but that your article in other respects is correct.

*TELEGRAM TO MRS. E. J. GRIMSLEY

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 6, 1863.

Mrs. Elizabeth J. Grimsley, Springfield: Is your John ready to enter the Naval school? If he is telegraph me his full name. A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. A. DIX

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 6, 1863.

Major-General Dix, Fort Monroe, Va.: By noticing the news you send from the Richmond "Dispatch" of this morning you will see one of the very latest dispatches says they have nothing reliable from Vicksburg since Sunday. Now we here have a dispatch from there of Sunday and others of almost every day preceding since the investment, and while they show the siege progressing they do not show any general fighting since the 21st and 22d. We have nothing from Port Hudson later than the 29th when things looked reasonably well for us. I have thought this might be of some interest to you.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL S. R. CURTIS

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 8, 1863.

My dear Sir: I have scarcely supposed it possible that you would entirely understand my feelings and motives in making the late change of commander for the department of the Missouri. I inclose you a copy of a letter which I recently addressed to General Schofield, and which will explain the matter in part. It became almost a matter of personal self-defense to somehow break up the state of things in Mis-



NEW YORK

W. T. Sherman

souri. I did not mean to cast any censure upon you, nor to indorse any of the charges made against you by others. With me the presumption is still in your favor: that you are honest, capable, faithful and patriotic.

Yours very truly,

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAMS TO GENERAL J. A. DIX

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 8, 1863.

Major-General Dix, Fort Monroe: We have dispatches from Vicksburg of the 3d. Siege progressing. No general fighting recently. All well. Nothing new from Port Hudson.

A. LINCOLN.

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 8, 1863.

Major-General Dix, Fort Monroe: The substance of the news sent of fight at Port Hudson on the 27th we have had here three or four days, and I supposed you had it also, when I said this morning, "No news from Port Hudson." We knew that General Sherman was wounded, but we hoped not so dangerously as your despatch represents. We still have nothing of that Richmond newspaper story of Kirby Smith crossing and of Banks losing an arm.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO J. P. HALE

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 9, 1863.

Hon. John P. Hale, Dover, N. H.: I believe that it was upon your recommendation that B. B. Bunker was appointed attorney for Nevada Territory. I am pressed to remove him on the ground that he does not attend to the office, nor in fact pass much time in the Territory. Do you wish to say anything on the subject.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO MRS. LINCOLN

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 9, 1863.

Mrs. Lincoln, Philadelphia, Pa.: Think you had better put "Tad's" pistol away. I had an ugly dream about him.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 9, 1863.

Major-General Hooker: I am told there are 50 incendiary shells here at the arsenal made to fit the 100-pounder Parrott gun now with you. If this be true would you like to have the shells sent to you?

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, June 10, 1863. 6.40 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: Your long despatch of to-day is just received. If left to me, I would not go south of the Rappahannock upon Lee's moving north of it. If you had Richmond invested to-day, you would not be able to take it in twenty days; meanwhile your communications, and with them your army, would be ruined. I think Lee's army, and not Richmond, is your true objective point. If he comes toward the upper Potomac follow on his flank and on his inside track, shortening your lines while he lengthens his. Fight him, too, when opportunity offers. If he stays where he is, fret him and fret him.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO MRS. LINCOLN

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 11, 1863.

Mrs. Lincoln, Philadelphia: Your three despatches received. I am very well and am glad to know that you and "Tad" are so.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO ERASTUS CORNING AND OTHERS ¹

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 12, 1863.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of May 19, inclosing the resolutions of a public meeting held at Albany, New York, on the 16th of the same month, was received several days ago.

The resolutions, as I understand them, are resolvable into two propositions—first, the expression of a purpose to sustain the cause of the Union, to secure peace through victory, and to support the administration in every constitutional and lawful measure to suppress the rebellion; and, secondly, a declaration of censure upon the administration for supposed unconstitutional action, such as the making of military arrests. And from the two propositions a third is deduced, which is that the gentlemen composing the meeting are resolved on doing their part to maintain our common government and coun-

¹One of the President's most remarkable political letters in which he clearly outlined and defended his policy pursued in cases of military arrests. The letter was written apropos of the Vallandigham scandal. Letters of such critical character have been classed among Lincoln's most notable State papers, invincible in logic and matchless for simplicity and lucidity.

try, despite the folly or wickedness, as they may conceive, of any administration. This position is eminently patriotic and as such I thank the meeting, and congratulate the nation for it. My own purpose is the same; so that the meeting and myself have a common object, and can have no difference, except in the choice of means or measures for effecting that object.

And here I ought to close this paper, and would close it, if there were no apprehension that more injurious consequences than any merely personal to myself might follow the censures systematically cast upon me for doing what, in my view of duty, I could not forbear. The resolutions promise to support me in every constitutional and lawful measure to suppress the rebellion; and I have not knowingly employed, nor shall knowingly employ, any other. But the meeting, by their resolutions, assert and argue that certain military arrests and proceedings following them, for which I am ultimately responsible are unconstitutional. I think they are not. The resolutions quote from the Constitution the definition of treason, and also the limiting safeguards and guarantees therein provided for the citizen on trials for treason, and on his being held to answer for capital or otherwise infamous crimes, and in criminal prosecutions his right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury.

They proceed to resolve "that these safeguards of the rights of the citizen against the pretensions of arbitrary power were intended more especially for his protection in times of civil commotion." And, apparently to demonstrate the proposition, the resolutions proceed: "They were secured substantially to the English people after years of protracted civil war, and were adopted into our Constitution at the close of the revolution." Would not the demonstration have been better if it could have been truly said that these safeguards had been adopted and applied during the civil wars and during our revolution, instead of after the one and at the close of the other? I, too, am devotedly for them after civil war and before civil war, and at all times, "except when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require" their suspension. The resolutions proceed to tell us that these safeguards "have stood the test of seventy-six years of trial under our republican system under circumstances which show that while they constitute the foundation of all free government, they are the elements of the enduring stability of the republic." No one denies that they have so stood the test up to the beginning of the present rebellion, if we except a certain occurrence at New Orleans hereafter to be mentioned; nor does any one question that they will stand the same

test much longer after the rebellion closes. But these provisions of the Constitution have no application to the case we have in hand, because the arrests complained of were not made for treason—that is, not for the treason defined in the Constitution, and upon the conviction of which the punishment is death—nor yet were they made to hold persons to answer for any capital or otherwise infamous crimes; nor were the proceedings following, in any constitutional or legal sense, “criminal prosecutions.” The arrests were made on totally different grounds, and the proceedings following accorded with the grounds of the arrests. Let us consider the real case with which we are dealing, and apply to it the parts of the Constitution plainly made for such cases.

Prior to my installation here it had been inculcated that any State had a lawful right to secede from the national Union, and that it would be expedient to exercise the right whenever the devotees of the doctrine should fail to elect a president to their own liking. I was elected contrary to their liking; and, accordingly, so far as it was legally possible, they had taken seven States out of the Union, had seized many of the United States forts, and had fired upon the United States flag, all before I was inaugurated, and, of course, before I had done any official act whatever. The rebellion thus begun soon ran into the present

civil war; and, in certain respects, it began on very unequal terms between the parties. The insurgents had been preparing for it more than thirty years, while the government had taken no steps to resist them. The former had carefully considered all the means which could be turned to their account. It undoubtedly was a well-pondered reliance with them that in their own unrestricted effort to destroy Union, Constitution and law, all together, the government would, in great degree, be restrained by the same Constitution and law from arresting their progress. Their sympathizers pervaded all departments of the government and nearly all communities of the people. From this material, under cover of "liberty of speech," "liberty of the press," and "*habeas corpus*," they hoped to keep on foot amongst us a most efficient corps of spies, informers, suppliers and aiders and abettors of their cause in a thousand ways. They knew that in times such as they were inaugurating, by the Constitution itself the "*habeas corpus*" might be suspended; but they also knew they had friends who would make a question as to who was to suspend it; meanwhile their spies and others might remain at large to help on their cause. Or if, as has happened, the Executive should suspend the writ without ruinous waste of time, instances of arresting innocent persons might oc-

cur, as are always likely to occur in such cases; and then a clamor could be raised in regard to this, which might be at least of some service to the insurgent cause. It needed no very keen perception to discover this part of the enemy's program, so soon as by open hostilities their machinery was fairly put in motion. Yet, thoroughly imbued with a reverence for the guaranteed rights of individuals, I was slow to adopt the strong measures which by degrees I have been forced to regard as being within the exceptions of the Constitution, and as indispensable to the public safety. Nothing is better known to history than that courts of justice are utterly incompetent to such cases. Civil courts are organized chiefly for trials of individuals, or, at most, a few individuals acting in concert—and this in quiet times, and on charges of crimes well defined in the law. Even in times of peace bands of horse-thieves and robbers frequently grow too numerous and powerful for the ordinary courts of justice. But what comparison, in numbers, have such bands ever borne to the insurgent sympathizers even in many of the loyal States? Again, a jury too frequently has at least one member more ready to hang the panel than to hang the traitor. And yet again, he who dissuades one man from volunteering, or induces one soldier to desert, weakens the Union cause

as much as he who kills a Union soldier in battle. Yet this dissuasion or inducement may be so conducted as to be no defined crime of which any civil court would take cognizance.

Ours is a case of rebellion—so called by the resolutions before me—in fact, a clear, flagrant, and gigantic case of rebellion; and the provision of the Constitution that “the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* shall not be suspended unless when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it,” is the provision which specially applies to our present case. This provision plainly attests the understanding of those who made the Constitution that ordinary courts of justice are inadequate to “cases of rebellion”—attests their purpose that, in such cases, men may be held in custody whom the courts, acting on ordinary rules, would discharge. *Habeas corpus* does not discharge men who are proved to be guilty of defined crime; and its suspension is allowed by the Constitution on purpose that men may be arrested and held who cannot be proved to be guilty of defined crime, “when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require it.”

This is precisely our present case—a case of rebellion wherein the public safety does require the suspension. Indeed, arrests by process of courts and arrests in cases of rebellion do not

proceed altogether upon the same basis. The former is directed at the small percentage of ordinary and continuous perpetration of crime, while the latter is directed at sudden and extensive uprisings against the government, which, at most, will succeed or fail in no great length of time. In the latter case arrests are made not so much for what has been done, as for what probably would be done. The latter is more for the preventive and less for the vindictive than the former. In such cases the purposes of men are much more easily understood than in cases of ordinary crime. The man who stands by and says nothing when the peril of his government is discussed, cannot be misunderstood. If not hindered, he is sure to help the enemy; much more if he talks ambiguously—talks for his country with “buts,” and “ifs” and “ands.” Of how little value the constitutional provision I have quoted will be rendered if arrests shall never be made until defined crimes shall have been committed, may be illustrated by a few notable examples: General John C. Breckinridge, General Robert E. Lee, General Joseph E. Johnston, General John B. Magruder, General William B. Preston, General Simon B. Buckner, and Commodore Franklin Buchanan, now occupying the very highest places in the rebel war service, were all within the power of the govern-

ment since the rebellion began, and were nearly as well known to be traitors then as now. Unquestionably if we had seized and held them, the insurgent cause would be much weaker. But no one of them had then committed any crime defined in the law. Every one of them, if arrested, would have been discharged on *habeas corpus* were the writ allowed to operate. In view of these and similar cases, I think the time not unlikely to come when I shall be blamed for having made too few arrests rather than too many.

By the third resolution the meeting indicate their opinion that military arrests may be constitutional in localities where rebellion actually exists, but that such arrests are unconstitutional in localities where rebellion or insurrection does not actually exist. They insist that such arrests shall not be made "outside of the lines of necessary military occupation and the scenes of insurrection." Inasmuch, however, as the Constitution itself makes no such distinction, I am unable to believe that there is any such constitutional distinction. I concede that the class of arrests complained of can be constitutional only when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety may require them; and I insist that in such cases they are constitutional wherever the public safety does require them, as well in places

to which they may prevent the rebellion extending, as in those where it may be already prevailing; as well where they may restrain mischievous interference with the raising and supplying of armies to suppress the rebellion, as where the rebellion may actually be; as well where they may restrain the enticing men out of the army, as where they would prevent mutiny in the army; equally constitutional at all places where they will conduce to the public safety, as against the dangers of rebellion or invasion. Take the particular case mentioned by the meeting. It is asserted in substance, that Mr. Vallandigham was, by a military commander, seized and tried "for no other reason than words addressed to a public meeting in criticism of the course of the administration, and in condemnation of the military orders of the general." Now, if there be no mistake about this, if this assertion is the truth and the whole truth, if there was no other reason for the arrest, then I concede that the arrest was wrong. But the arrest, as I understand, was made for a very different reason. Mr. Vallandigham avows his hostility to the war on the part of the Union; and his arrest was made because he was laboring, with some effect, to prevent the raising of troops, to encourage desertions from the army, and to leave the rebellion without an adequate military force to suppress it. He was

not arrested because he was damaging the political prospects of the administration or the personal interests of the commanding general but because he was damaging the army, upon the existence and vigor of which the life of the nation depends. He was warring upon the military, and this gave the military constitutional jurisdiction to lay hands upon him. If Mr. Vallandigham was not damaging the military power of the country, then his arrest was made on mistake of fact, which I would be glad to correct on reasonably satisfactory evidence.

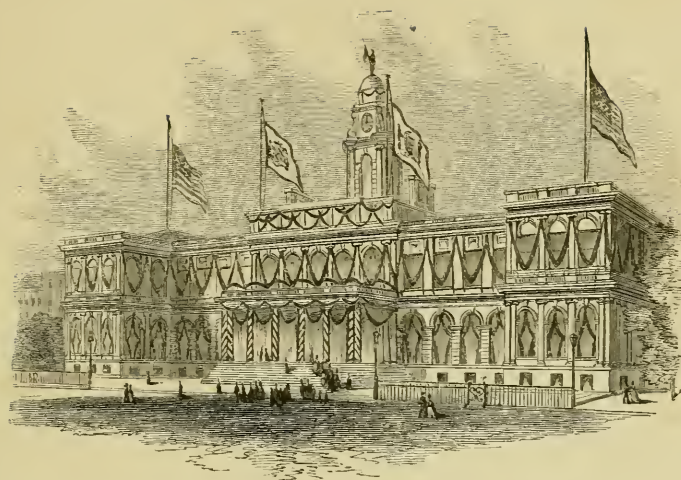
I understand the meeting whose resolutions I am considering to be in favor of suppressing the rebellion by military force—by armies. Long experience has shown that armies cannot be maintained unless desertion shall be punished by the severe penalty of death. The case requires, and the law and the Constitution sanction, this punishment. Must I shoot a simple-minded soldier boy who deserts, while I must not touch a hair of a wily agitator who induces him to desert? This is none the less injurious when effected by getting a father, or brother, or friend into a public meeting, and there working upon his feelings till he is persuaded to write the soldier boy that he is fighting in a bad cause, for a wicked administration of a contemptible government, too weak to arrest and punish him if

he shall desert. I think that, in such a case, to silence the agitator and save the boy is not only constitutional, but withal a great mercy.

If I be wrong on this question of constitutional power, my error lies in believing that certain proceedings are constitutional when, in cases of rebellion or invasion, the public safety requires them, which would not be constitutional when, in absence of rebellion or invasion, the public safety does not require them: in other words, that the Constitution is not in its application in all respects the same in cases of rebellion or invasion involving the public safety, as it is in times of profound peace and public security. The Constitution itself makes the distinction, and I can no more be persuaded that the government can constitutionally take no strong measures in time of rebellion, because it can be shown that the same could not be lawfully taken in time of peace, than I can be persuaded that a particular drug is not good medicine for a sick man because it can be shown to not be good food for a well one. Nor am I able to appreciate the danger apprehended by the meeting, that the American people will by means of military arrests during the rebellion lose the right of public discussion, the liberty of speech and the press, the law of evidence, trial by jury, and *habeas corpus* throughout the indefinite peaceful future

which I trust lies before them, any more than I am able to believe that a man could contract so strong an appetite for emetics during temporary illness as to persist in feeding upon them during the remainder of his healthful life.

In giving the resolutions that earnest consideration which you request of me, I cannot overlook the fact that the meeting speak as "Democrats." Nor can I, with full respect for their known intelligence, and the fairly presumed deliberation with which they prepared their resolutions, be permitted to suppose that this occurred by accident, or in any way other than that they preferred to designate themselves "Democrats" rather than "American citizens." In this time of national peril I would have preferred to meet you upon a level one step higher than any party platform, because I am sure that from such more elevated position we could do better battle for the country we all love than we possibly can from those lower ones where, from the force of habit, the prejudices of the past, and selfish hopes of the future, we are sure to expend much of our ingenuity and strength in finding fault with and aiming blows at each other. But since you have denied me this, I will yet be thankful for the country's sake that not all Democrats have done so. He on whose discretionary judgment Mr. Vallandigham was arrested and tried



is a Democrat, having no old party affinity with me, and the judge who rejected the constitutional view expressed in these resolutions, by refusing to discharge Mr. Vallandigham on *habeas corpus*, is a Democrat of better days than these, having received his judicial mantle at the hands of President Jackson. And still more, of all those Democrats who are nobly exposing their lives and shedding their blood on the battle-field, I have learned that many approve the course taken with Mr. Vallandigham, while I have not heard of a single one condemning it. I cannot assert that there are none such. And the name of President Jackson recalls an instance of pertinent history. After the battle of New Orleans, and while the fact that the treaty of peace had been concluded was well known in the city, but before official knowledge of it had arrived, General Jackson still maintained martial or military law. Now that it could be said the war was over, the clamor against martial law, which had existed from the first, grew more furious. Among other things, a Mr. Louaillier published a denunciatory newspaper article. General Jackson arrested him. A lawyer by the name of Morel procured the United States Judge Hall to order a writ of *habeas corpus* to release Mr. Louaillier. General Jackson arrested both the lawyer and the judge. A

Mr. Hollander ventured to say of some part of the matter that "it was a dirty trick." General Jackson arrested him. When the officer undertook to serve the writ of *habeas corpus*, General Jackson took it from him, and sent him away with a copy. Holding the judge in custody a few days, the general sent him beyond the limits of his encampment, and set him at liberty with an order to remain till the ratification of peace should be regularly announced, or until the British should have left the southern coast. A day or two more elapsed, the ratification of the treaty of peace was regularly announced, and the judge and others were fully liberated. A few days more, and the judge called General Jackson into court and fined him \$1000 for having arrested him and the others named. The general paid the fine, and then the matter rested for nearly thirty years, when Congress refunded principal and interest. The late Senator Douglas, then in the House of Representatives, took a leading part in the debates in which the constitutional question was much discussed. I am not prepared to say whom the journals would show to have voted for the measure.

It may be remarked—first, that we had the same Constitution then as now; secondly, that we then had a case of invasion, and now we have a case of rebellion; and, thirdly, that the perma-

ment right of the people to public discussion, the liberty of speech and of the press, the trial by jury, the law of evidence, and the *habeas corpus*, suffered no detriment whatever by that conduct of General Jackson, or its subsequent approval by the American Congress. And yet, let me say that, in my own discretion, I do not know whether I would have ordered the arrest of Mr. Vallandigham. While I cannot shift the responsibility from myself, I hold that, as a general rule, the commander in the field is the better judge of the necessity in any particular case. Of course I must practise a general directory and revisory power in the matter.

One of the resolutions expresses the opinion of the meeting that arbitrary arrests will have the effect to divide and distract those who should be untied in suppressing the rebellion and I am specifically called on to discharge Mr. Vallandigham. I regard this as, at least, a fair appeal to me on the expediency of exercising a constitutional power which I think exists. In response to such appeal I have to say, it gave me pain when I learned that Mr. Vallandigham had been arrested (that is, I was pained that there should have seemed to be a necessity for arresting him), and that it will afford me great pleasure to discharge him so soon as I can by any means believe the public safety will not suffer by it.

I further say that, as the war progresses, it appears to me, opinion and action, which were in great confusion at first, take shape and fall into more regular channels, so that the necessity for strong dealing with them gradually decreases. I have every reason to desire that it should cease altogether, and far from the least is my regard for the opinions and wishes of those who, like the meeting at Albany, declare their purpose to sustain the government in every constitutional and lawful measure to suppress the rebellion. Still, I must continue to do so much as may seem to be required by the public safety.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAMS TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

(*In cipher.*)

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 12, 1863.

Major-General Hooker: If you can show me a trail of the Incendiary shells on Saturday night I will try to join you at 5 p. m. that day.
Answer.

A. LINCOLN.

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 13, 1863.

Major-General Hooker: I was coming down this afternoon, but if you would prefer I should not, I shall blame you if you do not tell me so.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAMS TO GENERAL E. B. TYLER

(In cipher.)

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 14, 1863.

General Tyler, Martinsburg: Is Molroy invested, so that he cannot fall back to Harper's Ferry?
A. LINCOLN.

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 14, 1863.

General Tyler, Martinsburg: If you are besieged how do you despatch me? Why did you not leave before being besieged?

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAMS TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, June 14, 1863. 1.14 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: Do you consider it possible that 15,000 of Ewell's men can now be at Winchester?
A. LINCOLN.

WASHINGTON, June 14, 1863. 5.50 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: So far as we can make out here, the enemy have Milroy surrounded at Winchester, and Tyler at Martinsburg. If they could hold out a few days, could you help them? If the head of Lee's army is at Martinsburg and the tail of it on the plank road between Fredericksburg and Chancellorsville, the animal must be very slim somewhere. Could you not break him?
A. LINCOLN.

WASHINGTON, June 14, 1863. 11.55 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: Yours of 11:30 [11:15] just received. You have nearly all the elements for forming an opinion whether Winchester is surrounded that I have. I really fear—almost believe—it is. No communication has been had with it during the day, either at Martinsburg or Harper's Ferry. At 7 P. M. we also lost communication with Martinsburg. The enemy had also appeared there some hours before. At 9 P. M. Harper's Ferry said the enemy was reported at Berryville and Smithfield. If I could know that Longstreet and Ewell moved in that direction so long ago as you stated in your last, then I should feel sure that Winchester is strongly invested. It is quite certain that a considerable force of the enemy is thereabout, and I fear it is an overwhelming one compared with Milroy's. I am unable to give you any more certain opinions.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL R. C. SCHENCK

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 14, 1863.

Major-General Schenck: Get General Milroy from Winchester to Harper's Ferry, if possible. He will be "gobbled up" if he remains, if he is not already past salvation.

A. LINCOLN, President United States.



*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL B. F. KELLEY

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 14, 1863.

Major-General Kelley, Harper's Ferry: Are the forces at Winchester and Martinsburg making any effort to get to you? A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO MRS. LINCOLN

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 15, 1863.

Mrs. Lincoln, Philadelphia, Pa.: Tolerably well. Have not rode out much yet, but have at last got new tires on the carriage wheels and perhaps shall ride out soon. A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, June 15, 1863. 8.30 P. M.

Major-General Hooker, Fairfax Station: The facts are now known here that Winchester and Martinsburg were both besieged yesterday. The troops from Martinsburg have got into Harper's Ferry without loss. Those from Winchester are also in, having lost in killed, wounded and missing about one third of their number. Of course the enemy holds both places and I think the report is authentic that he is crossing the Potomac at Williamsport. We have not heard of his yet appearing at Harper's Ferry or on the river anywhere below. I would like to hear from you. A. LINCOLN.

CALL FOR 100,000 MILITIA TO SERVE FOR SIX
MONTHS, June 15, 1863

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA:

A Proclamation.

WHEREAS, the armed insurrectionary combinations now existing in several of the States are threatening to make inroads into the States of Maryland, Western Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Ohio, requiring immediately an additional military force for the service of the United States.

Now, therefore, I, Abraham Lincoln, President of the United States, and commander-in-chief of the army and navy thereof, and of the militia of the several States when called into actual service, do hereby call into the service of the United States one hundred thousand militia from the States following, namely: from the State of Maryland, ten thousand; from the State of Pennsylvania, fifty thousand; from the State of Ohio, thirty thousand; from the State of West Virginia, ten thousand—to be mustered into the service of the United States forthwith, and to serve for the period of six months from the date

of such muster into said service, unless sooner discharged; to be mustered in as infantry, artillery, and cavalry, in proportions which will be made known through the War Department, which department will also designate the several places of rendezvous. These militia to be organized according to the rules and regulations of the volunteer service and such orders as may hereafter be issued. The States aforesaid will be respectively credited, under the enrolment act, for the militia services rendered under this proclamation.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

Done at the city of Washington, this
fifteenth day of June, in the year of our
Lord one thousand eight hundred and
[L. S.] sixty-three, and of the independence of
the United States the eighty-seventh.

ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

By the President:

WILLIAM H. SEWARD, Secretary of State.

LETTER FROM JOHN HAY TO JULIAN R.
CAMPBELL

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 15, 1863.

My dear Sir: I am directed by the President to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the

10th June, and to express his gratification to the gentlemen composing the association you represent for the liberal and patriotic tone of the resolutions which you inclosed.

I have the honor to be, very truly,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN HAY.

LETTER TO GENERAL J. HOOKER ¹

(*Private.*)

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 16, 1863.

My dear General: I send you this by the hand of Captain Dahlgren. Your despatch of 11:30 A. M. to-day is just received. When you say I have long been aware that you do not enjoy the confidence of the major-general commanding, you state the case much too strongly.

You do not lack his confidence in any degree to do you any harm. On seeing him, after telegraphing you this morning, I found him more nearly agreeing with you than I was myself. Surely you do not mean to understand that I am withholding my confidence from you when I

¹ The antagonism between General Hooker and General Halleck had been increasing steadily for some time and culminated in Hooker's resignation on June 27. Since the beginning of the war Lincoln had been annoyed, his plans upset and the cause crippled by similar jealousies. He tried to avoid being mixed in these "family quarrels," as he called them, but his despatches show how often he was worried and balked by them.

happen to express an opinion (certainly never discourteously) differing from one of your own.

I believe Halleck is dissatisfied with you to this extent only, that he knows that you write and telegraph ("report," as he calls it) to me. I think he is wrong to find fault with this; but I do not think he withholds any support from you on account of it. If you and he would use the same frankness to one another, and to me, that I use to both of you, there would be no difficulty. I need and must have the professional skill of both, and yet these suspicions tend to deprive me of both.

I believe you are aware that since you took command of the army I have not believed you had any chance to effect anything till now. As it looks to me, Lee's now returning toward Harper's Ferry gives you back the chance that I thought McClellan lost last fall. Quite possibly I was wrong both then and now; but, in the great responsibility resting upon me, I cannot be entirely silent. Now, all I ask is that you will be in such mood that we can get into our action the best cordial judgment of yourself and General Halleck, with my poor mite added, if indeed he and you shall think it entitled to any consideration at all.

Yours as ever,

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO F. KAPP AND OTHERS

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 16, 1863.

Frederick Kapp and Others, New York: The Governor of New York promises to send us troops and if he wishes the assistance of General Frémont and General Sigel, one or both, he can have it. If he does not wish them it would but breed confusion for us to set them to work independently of him.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL T. F. MEAGHER

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 16, 1863.

General T. Francis Meagher, New York: Your dispatch received. Shall be very glad for you to raise 3,000 Irish troops if done by the consent of, and in concert with Governor Seymour.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO MRS. LINCOLN

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 16, 1863.

Mrs. Lincoln, Philadelphia: It is a matter of choice with yourself whether you come home. There is no reason why you should not, that did not exist when you went away. As bearing on the question of your coming home, I do not think the raid into Pennsylvania amounts to anything at all.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO COLONEL W. S. BLISS

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 16, 1863.

Col. William S. Bliss, New York Hotel:
Your dispatch asking whether I will accept "the Loyal Brigade of the North" is received. I never heard of that brigade by name and do not know where it is, yet presuming it is in New York, I say I will gladly accept it, if tendered by and with the consent and approbation of the Governor of that State. Otherwise not.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, June 16, 1863. 10 P. M.

Major-General Hooker: To remove all misunderstanding, I now place you in the strict military relation to General Halleck of a commander of one of the armies to the general-in-chief of all the armies. I have not intended differently, but as it seems to be differently understood I shall direct him to give you orders, and you to obey them.

A. LINCOLN.

MEMORANDUM ABOUT I. D. ANDREWS

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 17, 1863.

Mr. Israel D. Andrews appeals to me, saying he is suffering injury by something I have said

of him. I really know very little of Mr. Andrews. As well as I can remember, I was called on by one or two persons asking me to give him or aid him in getting some public employment; and as a reason for declining I stated that I had a very unfavorable opinion of him, chiefly because I had been informed that, in connection with some former service of his to the government, he had presented an enormous and unjustifiable claim, which I understood he was still pressing the government to pay. I certainly did not pretend to know anything of the matter personally; and I say now, I do not personally know anything which should detract from Mr. Andrews' character.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 17, 1863.

Major-General Hooker: Mr. Eckert, superintendent in the telegraph office, assures me that he has sent, and will send you everything that comes to the office.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO JOSHUA TEVIS

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 18, 1863.

Joshua Tevis, U. S. Atty., Frankfort, Ky.:
A Mr. Buckner is here showing a record and

asking to be discharged from a suit in San Francisco, as bail for one Thompson. Unless the record shown me is defectively made out I think it can be successfully defended against. Please examine the case carefully, and if you shall be of opinion it cannot be sustained, dismiss it and relieve me from all trouble about it. Please answer

A. LINCOLN.

NOTE TO SECRETARY STANTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 18, 1863.

My dear Sir: Could you without too much trouble have sent to me a statement of the case of John Steele, who it seems has been banished to Canada?

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO J. K. MOORHEAD

WASHINGTON, June 18, 1863. 10.40 A. M.

To Hon. J. K. Moorhead, Pittsburg, Pa.:
If General Brooks, now in command at Pittsburg, finds any person or persons injuriously affecting his military operations, he is authorized to arrest him or them at once if the case is urgent. If not urgent, let him communicate the particulars to me. General Brooks is the man to now manage the matter at Pittsburg. Please show this to him.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GOVERNOR D. TOD

(Cipher.)

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 18, 1863.

Governor D. Tod, Columbus, O.: Yours received. I deeply regret that you were not re-nominated, not that I have aught against Mr. Brough. On the contrary like yourself, I say hurrah for him.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL A. DINGMAN

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 18, 1863.

General A. Dingman, Belleville, C. W.: Thanks for your offer of the Fifteenth Battalion. I do not think Washington is in danger.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO E. E. MALHIOT, B. JOHNSON AND
T. COTTMAN

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 19, 1863.

Gentlemen: Your letter, which follows, has been received and considered.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY ABRAHAM LINCOLN, President of the United States:

The undersigned, a committee appointed by the planters of the State of Louisiana, respectfully represent that they have been delegated to seek of the General Government a full recognition of all the rights

of the State as they existed previous to the passage of an act of secession, upon the principle of the existence of the State constitution unimpaired, and no legal act having transpired that could in any way deprive them of the advantages conferred by that constitution. Under this constitution the State wishes to return to its full allegiance in the enjoyment of all rights and privileges exercised by the other States under the Federal Constitution. With the view of accomplishing the desired object we further request that your Excellency will, as commander-in-chief of the army of the United States, direct the Military Governor of Louisiana to order an election, in conformity with the constitution and laws of the State, on the first Monday of November next, for all State and Federal officers.

With high consideration and respect, we have the honor to subscribe ourselves,

Your obedient servants,

E. E. MALHIOT.

BRADISH JOHNSON.

THOMAS COTTMAN.

Since receiving the letter, reliable information has reached me that a respectable portion of the Louisiana people desire to amend their State constitution, and contemplate holding a State convention for that object. This fact alone, as it seems to me, is a sufficient reason why the General Government should not give the committal you seek to the existing State con-

stitution. I may add that while I do not perceive how such committal could facilitate our military operations in Louisiana, I really apprehend it might be so used as to embarrass them.

As to an election to be held next November, there is abundant time without any order or proclamation from me just now. The people of Louisiana shall not lack an opportunity for a fair election for both Federal and State officers by want of anything within my power to give them.

Your obedient servant,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, June 21, 1863. 9 A. M.

Major-General Hooker: Operator at Leesburg just now tells us that firing commenced about seven this morning in direction from here of Aldie's Gap and Middleburg; has continued all day, and has receded from him, and is apparently now about White Plains; was very heavy this morning, but lighter now.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. M. SCHOFIELD

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 21, 1863.

General Schofield, Saint Louis, Mo.: I write you to-day in answer to your dispatch of yesterday. If you cannot await the arrival by mail telegraph me again.

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO GENERAL JOHN M. SCHOFIELD

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 22, 1863.

My dear Sir: Your despatch, asking in substance whether, in case Missouri shall adopt gradual emancipation, the General Government will protect slave-owners in that species of property during the short time it shall be permitted by the State to exist within it, has been received. Desirous as I am that emancipation shall be adopted by Missouri, and believing as I do that gradual can be made better than immediate for both black and white, except when military necessity changes the case, my impulse is to say that such protection would be given. I cannot know exactly what shape an act of emancipation may take. If the period from the initiation to the final end should be comparatively short, and the act should prevent persons being sold during that period into more lasting slavery, the whole would be easier. I do not wish to pledge the General Government to the affirmative support of even temporary slavery beyond what can be fairly claimed under the Constitution. I suppose, however, this is not desired, but that it is desired for the military force of the United States, while in Missouri, to not be used in subverting the temporarily reserved legal rights in

slaves during the progress of emancipation. This I would desire also. I have very earnestly urged the slave States to adopt emancipation; and it ought to be, and is, an object with me not to overthrow or thwart what any of them may in good faith do to that end. You are therefore authorized to act in the spirit of this letter in conjunction with what may appear to be the military necessities of your department. Although this letter will become public at some time, it is not intended to be made so now.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

LETTER TO SECRETARY STANTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 22, 1863.

My dear Sir: Do you not remember the French officer Colonel Duffie, whom we saw at General McDowell's headquarters near Fredericksburg, last May a year ago? I remember he was then well spoken of. On the night of the 17th instant he was surrounded by Stuart's cavalry near Millersburg, and cut his way out with proportionately heavy loss to his then small command. Please see and hear him. I think you have strong recommendations on file in his behalf.

Yours truly,

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WASHINGTON, June 22, 1863.

Major-General Hooker: Operator at Leeseburg just now says:

I heard very little firing this A. M. about daylight, but it seems to have stopped now. It was in about the same direction as yesterday, but farther off.

A. LINCOLN.

*LETTER TO SECRETARY STANTON

EXECUTIVE MANSION,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 23, 1863.

My dear Sir: You remember that Hon. W. D. Kelley and others are engaged in raising or trying to raise some colored regiments in Philadelphia. The bearer of this, Wilton M. Herpert, is a friend of Judge Kelley as appears by the letter of the latter. He is a private in the 112th Penn. and has been disappointed in a reasonable expectation of one of the smaller offices. He now wants to be a Lieutenant in one of the colored regiments. If Judge Kelley will say in writing he wishes to so have him, I am willing for him to be discharged from his present position and be so appointed. If you approve, so endorse and let him carry this letter to Kelley. Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO MAJOR VAN VLIET

(Cipher.)

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 23, 1863.

Major Van Vliet, New York: Have you any idea what the news is in the dispatch of General Banks to General Halleck? A LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL D. N. COUCH

WAR DEPARTMENT,

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 23, 1863.

Major-General Couch, Harrisburg, Pa.: Have you any reports of the enemy moving into Pennsylvania? And if any what?
A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. A. DIX

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 24, 1863.

Major-General Dix, Yorktown, Va.: We have a dispatch from General Grant of the 19th. Don't think Kirby Smith took Milliken's Bend since, allowing time to get the news to Joe Johnston and from him to Richmond. But it is not absolutely impossible. Also have news from Banks to the 16th, I think. He had not run away then, nor thought of it.

A. LINCOLN.

NOTE TO SECRETARY CHASE

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 25, 1863.

My dear Sir: Hon. William Kellogg will tell you plainly what he wants; and I wish him obliged so far as you can consistently do it. Please strain a point for him, if you do not have to strain it too far. Yours truly, A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL PECK

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 25, 1863.

General Peck, Suffolk, Va.: Colonel Derrom, of the Twenty-fifth New Jersey Volunteers, now mustered out, says there is a man in your hands under conviction for desertion, who formerly belonged to the above named regiment, and whose name is Templeton, Isaac F. Templeton, I believe. The colonel and others appeal to me for him. Please telegraph to me what is the condition of the case, and if he has not been executed send me the record of the trial and conviction.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL J. HOOKER

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 27, 1863.—8 A. M.

Major-General Hooker: It did not come from the newspapers, nor did I believe it but I wished to be entirely sure it was a falsehood.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL A. E. BURNSIDE ¹

EXECUTIVE MANSION, June 28, 1863.

Major-General Burnside, Cincinnati, Ohio:
There is nothing going on in Kentucky on the subject of which you telegraph, except an enrollment. Before anything is done beyond this, I will take care to understand the case better than I now do.

A. LINCOLN.

*TELEGRAM TO GENERAL R. C. SCHENCK

WAR DEPARTMENT, June 28, 1863.

Major-General Schenck, Baltimore, Md.:
Every place in the Naval school subject to my appointment is full and I have one unredeemed promise of more than half a year's standing.

A. LINCOLN.

TELEGRAM TO GENERAL D. N. COUCH

WASHINGTON, June 28, 1863. 4 P. M.

Major-General Couch: What news now? What are the enemy firing at four miles from your works?

A LINCOLN.

¹ The same telegram was sent to Governor J. T. Boyle of Ohio.



